THE MESSENGER

OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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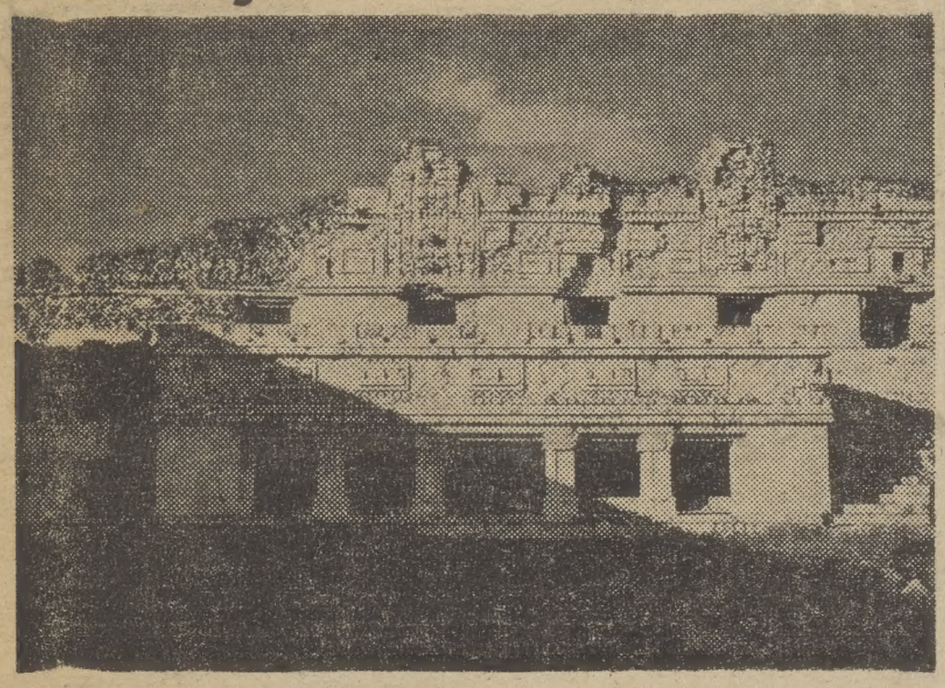
Archaeological Ruins at Uxmal, Yucatan



Here is one of the ancient ruins in Yucatan, in northern Mexico, which the group of Latter-day Saint tourists are now visiting under the leadership of Dr. Milton R. Hunter of the First Council of Seventy. Dr. Hunter directed his sermon at the last general conference to native documentary evidences regarding the ancient traditions of the origin of the early colonizers in Central America, traditions which curiously parallel the account recorded by the writers of the Book of Mormon. Now he is calling attention, by actual touring, to the monumental ruins of a great and powerful people who once dwelt in the region referred to in both the old documents and in the Nephite scriptures.

Milton R. Hunter Leads Group on Archaeology Trip

Milton R. Hunter of the First Council of Seventy led a group of 18 Latter-day Saints on a trip to archaeological sites in Mexico and Guatamala during late December. The junket will extend to January 6, tho Elder Hunter will remain until the 16th, studying and photographing ruins.

Thomas Stuart Ferguson, Orinda branch president, co-author with Brother Hunter of the book, "Ancient America and the Book of Mormon", and president of the New World Archaeological Foundation" was invited to join the Meso-American tour, but was unable to make the trip on account of prior committments.

Elder Ferguson states that the object of the present tour under guidance of Dr. Hunter is to acquaint more Latter-day Saints with the current status or archaeological research in Middle America, and to confer first hand with archaeologists in the field and in Mexican museums. Elder Hunter intends also to study ancient ruins and to photograph not only these ruins, but particularly all the archaic artifacts now in the large Mexican museums so that they may be given further study and published as opportunity permits.

No. Calif. Welfare Region Reports All Stakes Met 1954 Budget Items, Increases For 1955 Budget

The old year saw marked successes for the regional welfare program in the bay area, and the making of plans for improvements and extensions next year. The region includes the stakes of Northern California.

Reports now indicate that the region has fulfilled the 1954 budget 100 per cent, according to Delbert F. Wright, Regional Welfare chairman.

"The year began with all six stakes; San Jose, Palo Alto, San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Santa Rosa, well organized and a budget outlined.

Highlights of the 1954 budget included:

The usual amount of milk, butter, eggs, fresh fruit and vegetables, by stakes, plus about 28,000 pounds of fresh meat, 20,000 pounds of dried prunes, 65,000 pounds of grain, 1242 pairs of work trousers, and 110,000 cans of fruit and vegetables.

Regional council members met with President Wright as chairman, President John L. Murdock of Santa Rosa stake as assistant chairman, and Brother Timothy Morley of Berkeley stakes, as coordinator, to discuss and carefully allocate items on a fair and equitable, per capita basis. In considering the allocations, the council weighed abilities to produce certain parts of the budget, area by area.

Leaders Commends

President Wright commended welfare leaders in each of the stakes and Brothers Murdock and Morley for their work which made possible fulfilling regional welfare budgets for 1954.

To administer the six-Stake San Francisco Bay region, council meetings are held each year, and six regional council meetings. The council consists of the six stake presidents and coordinator and .. . Brother Morley.

Bro. M. Romney, of the Council of the Twelve, in an inspirational manner outlined the purposes of the methods by which it might be made successful. Attending this meeting, virtually 100 per cent, were bishops and their counselors, ward presidents of Relief Societies, and all welfare committeemen of the six stakes.

Plans for Next Year

Plans for next year were made to meet budget assignments for 1955, which indicate that they is much

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Explorer-Mia Maid Annual Rose Prom Set for January 15

The Berkeley Stake's annual Explorer and Mia Maid rose prom will be held Saturday, January 15th, at the Claremont Ward recreational hall.

Under the direction of Jack Evans, stake explorer leader, and Enid Young, stake Mia Maid supervisor, the fourth performance of "A Symphony In Roses" will be presented in the finest traditions of our stake.

With the help of all Explorers and Mia Maids of the stake and their leaders it promises to be an unusual and happy occasion for all. The time? 8 to 11 p.m. The orchestra? Roy Clovis and his danceable dance band. The place? Claremont Ward recreation hall, Stuart Street, just west of Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. Be there with the crowd!

24 Seminaries in Northern California Report 750 Enrolled

Director R. Lee Kenner of the Latter-day Saint Institute in Berkeley and of all LDS seminaries in Northern California reported to the Messenger in mid-December that enrolment figures for the 24 church seminaries now in daily session in Northern California Stakes had risen from an early 600 to approximately 750.

These hundreds of "Mormon" high school boys and girls persuing religious studies in daily 7 a.m. classes are scattered in six stakes from Palo Alto to Gridley.

Sacramento Stake with eight seminary classes leads all other Northern California Stakes in the number of seminary groups in current session while Oakland Stake follows with five classes. Four classes each are found in Berkeley and Palo Stakes, respectively; two in Gridley, and one in Santa Rosa Stake.

Sacramento Stake Divided In Two

The Sacramento Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was split into two stakes December 12, 1954 as the result of its growth.

Presidents of the new stakes, as well as the seven bishops for each stake, were announced at a quarterly conference in Sacramento Memorial Auditorium. LeGrand Richards, one of the 12 apostles of the church; and Elders Alma Sonne and Preston Nibley came down from Salt Lake City for the installation.

The Sacramento Stake was organized in 1934 with a membership of 1,600. Outgoing President Perry Tingey said it has grown from 3,600 to 8,000 members since 1948.

Austin G. Hunt of nearby Carmichael became president of the North Sacramento Stake, and Albert B. Crandall of Sacramento went in as president of the Sacramento Stake.

Eagle Scout...And He's Blind! James Rich Wotherspoon Earns Scouting's Highest Rank

You may have seen a blind young man on the Key trains coming from his Latter-day Saint home in Balboa Ward, San Francisco, to the University of California's pre-law classes. He is James Rich Wotherspoon, 20.

James Rich was born blind (as was his brother Robert, 23), and has been raised with loving care by his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Bales, and his uncle, Alma L. Wotherspoon, both of 183 Meadowbrook Drive, San Francisco.

Victor Lindblad (Berkeley Second Ward), executive for the Mt. Diablo Council, Boy Scouts of America, and George Budgen, troop 2 scoutmaster (School of the Blind in Berkeley), expressed belief that James Rich is the first blind scout ever to attain eagle scout honors.

And young Wotherspoon won his honor the hard way, studying for his merit badges through Braille and learning to identify birds by their calls. He needed only 21 merit badges to qualify for the distinction but he made 24.

He is happily active in his Church work and teaches Sunday School and does Ward teachng in his ward (Balboa) in San Francisco.

Four-Stake Quarterly Conference for '55

Berkeley	Feb. 12, 13	Apr 30 May 1	Aug. 27, 28	Nov. 12, 13
Oakland	Feb. 19, 20	May 7, 8	Sept. 3, 4	Nov. 19, 20
Palo Alto	Feb. 26, 27	May 14, 15	Sept. 10, 11	Nov. 26, 27
San Fran.	Jan. 8, 9	March 19, 20	June 4, 5	Oct. 8, 9

Former Tahitian Missionary Comments on President McKay's New Tour of Pacific Islands

Local reactions to the announced January tour by President and Mrs. McKay of the Pacific Island Missions and Australia are varied and interesting.

Francis B. Winkel, president of Centerville Branch, Oakland Stake who filled a mission to Tahiti, 1935-38, explained that the French law prohibits title to the island lands in any name, but a French citizen or native islander. Hence our church title to its chapel sites, for instance has to be so held as to fulfill the law. One of the President's objectives is mentioned in dispatches from Salt Lake City as having to do "with property at Papeete" the capital of the Tahiti Islands.

The president, it is said, will attend to "special problems needing his attention in Tahiti regarding organization of branches." Elder Winkel explains that the 50-odd islands require some 50-odd branch organizations and that this is a perennial problem. A schooner, the Pardita, now owned by the church makes visits to these many islands more convenient and frequently.

President McKay's itinerary will take him to Hawaii, the Canton Islands, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, New Zealand and Australia.

The church leader will be revisting missions he toured on a world trip as an Apostle in 1921. Now he will be the first President of the church ever to visit these missions with the exception of the Hawaiin Islands.

President and Mrs. McKay will leave Salt Lake January 2 on their 54th wedding anniversary.

Local Genealogists Find Berk. Reference Book Inspirational

Bay area L.D.S. genealogists and their friends are finding new inspiration and impetus with the perusal of the Berkeley Stake Genealogical Reference Book of 1954 recently issued for the stake lecture series. It was compiled by Mrs. Gustav E. Schier of San Francisco, and adds a higher plane for self-instruction and home teachers in various phases of genealogical endeavors.

Sr. Mary Lou Harline reports the book in use in Massachusetts; and the San Diego Genealogical stake committee has added the San Francisco Stake Book of 1953 to the new Berkeley Stake Reference Book in their library collection. The San Francisco public library has the books newly bound, and visitors or students may have the advantage of finding the volumes —indexed in the card catalogue, as following: "GENEALOGY— *029. 28s." The asterick means that the book is always available in the Reference room.

Mrs. Thomas Kennedy of Balboa Second Ward, S. F. reports splendid results from research in Norwich and Ipswich on her Judd lines, and from the vicar has been successful in locating kinfolk of this generation in a nearby village. Thomas Last, one of the transbay students from S. F., has found material from census records of Blomfield, Essex on Hardisty lines

(Continued on Page Seven)

Original Documents Disprove Reorganized Church Contentions

Two early issues of "The True Latter-day Saints Herald", organ of the so - called Reorganized Church, which have recently come to light reveal interesting admissions regarding two doctrines which that group now violently reject.

Thomas S. Furguson and Ward Forman (Berkeley First) each report having received transcripts from an early but differently dated copy of the "Saint's Herald".

Vol. I, Number I, January 1860, of this publication carries an article on the old bone of contention, plural marriage, and by clear assumption it grants that Joseph Smith did teach the doctrine in Nauvoo. Of course they follow this admission, so damaging to their contention that the Prophet even-traditional position, by the false

(continued on page two)

Sons of Pres. McKay Join Hands With Him At McKay Building

While members of the First Presidency and other General Authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints participated in the dedication of the new-million-dollar David O. McKay Building on Brigham Young University campus, Tuesday, Dec. 14, two prayers were offered by the sons of the president.

Sons of President McKay, David Lawrence McKay, first assistant superintendent of the Deseret Sunday School Union, and Dr. Llewellyn McKay, chairman of the Department of Modern Languages at University of Utah, offered the invocation and benediction.

President Stephen L. Richards, first counselor in the First Presidency offered the dedicatory address and prayer at the George Alber Smith Fieldhouse.

The new building will be in full operation for the winter quarter, starting January 3. It is a three-story structure on the west brow of Temple Hill. It contains about 60,000 square feet of floor space and will add 38 classrooms and 110 offices to the rapidly expanding campus.

OAKLAND STAKE

Martha McKaig Gets Luncheon Honor On 89th Anniversary

Oakland Third Ward Relief Society had a special party and luncheon December 14 honoring Martha H. McKaig on her 89th birthday.

Past stake Relief Society president, Ruth Hilton made a record of Martha's life and it was played at the party. Berkeley Stake Relief Society president Irene Ranker pinned an orchid on the guest of honor, Sister McKaig.

The 247th Quorum of Seventies held a joyous Christmas dinner December 11 in the Oakland Ward chapel. The wives were the guests.

Home from BYU for holidays are Rasylin Call, Miss Bramwell, Miss Telford, Gene Humphreys, Harold Clayson, George and David Pinkney, Nelson Reed and others.

County DUP Group Parties

Berkeley DUP was hostess to Claremont and the County Board at a lovely program December 13 in the Berkeley chapel. A large group, lovely refreshments and decorations, Christmas pioneer stories, and music by DUP choral group, rounded out a delightful evening.

Abigail Jane Daly camp held their Christmas party at the home of Catharine Pearson, December 23. Gifts, a tree, Santa Claus, pioneer stories and refreshments made a delightful party.

Elmhurst DUP invited the husbands and prospective members to a pot luck dinner December 28.

San Leandro DUP met December 23 in the evening and had a lovely party.

Alameda DUP met at the home of Elnora Jensen for a delightful afternoon December 18. The regular lesson and Christmas refreshments made a delightful day.

Bud (Edwin) Anderson formerly of Oakland Stake but now in the army at Ft. Lewis, Washington, is congratulated on his marriage in the Salt Lake Temple January 6, to Lillian Lindstrom of Tacoma, Washington. Lillian, sports director in MIA, also received an award for best attendance at all meetings in her ward. Bud is the son of Mrs. Theodore (Vanita) Ruegg of Reno, Nevada.

New Year Greetings, All Mutual Workers

By Verla Jackson

At the beginning of a brand new year may we extend to our Young Men's and Young Women's Mutual Workers of the Oakland Stake the very best of good wishes for another successful season.

The time and energy you have spent in the direction of the youth of the Church has been appreciated not only by your stake representatives but by the young people who are participating in the Mutual program. It is our sincere hope that you will continue enthusiastically in your various assignments . . . . planning your work and working your plan.

Holiday festivities in the Oakland Stake were most successful. The good old year was dismissed with the proper fanfare and 1955 welcomed with real enthusiasm at both Alameda, where the young people were celebratieng, as well as at the Special Interest party in Hayward. Our thanks to all those who helped make New Year's Eve so enjoyable.

BEE HIVES and BOY SCOUTS another fun evening has been planned especially for you Friday, January 7th at San Leandro Ward.

MIA MAIDS and EXPLORERS the date for YOUR ROSE PROM has been set for Friday evening, February 4th at San Leandro. Remember the date!

"MEET ME AT MUTUAL" JANUARY 18TH

You will find interests and pleasure for all ages at your Ward Mutual. Resolve to attend regularly throughout 1955.

Original Documents

(continued from page one)

tually repudiated the revelation and "repented" of the whole affair. Elder Ferguson has the transcript of this article now in his possession.

Ward Forman in mid-December received from the Bancroft Library, University of California, a photostat copy of an article in a later issue of the "Saint's Herald". In this article the writer accepts the validity of the Book of Abraham (now part of the Pearl of Great Price) and voices accord with the doctrine found therein pertaining to the plurity of Gods. However, the doctrine is interpreted by the writer as applying only to the potential exaltation destiny of faithful saints, and not to the present status of deityship.

Oakland Ward

Visits, Parties Mark December Activities

By Frances Mayo

What a wonderful season of warm and joyous contacts. A number of our young people returned home from the "Y" to spend the holidays with their families and friends. Kay Brown, Ron Banks, Frank Higham, Fran Peterson, and Sally McClay. Heber Brown, Jr. reversed things a little and spent Thanksgiving in Salt Lake.

Stan O'Leary has been called to serve in the Southern States Mission. Stan has served in the Navy for the past four years and feels it is a wonderful privilege now to serve our Heavenly Father for the next two or three years.

Although Jim Norberg now lives in the Oakland Fifth Ward we still claim a part interest in him! He has been called to serve in the Argentine Mission and we are happy for him, but I'm agraid that he'd have a difficult time convincing us that he and Bart Cardon, (who is a close buddy of his) didn't plan the whole thing!

We warmly welcome the Albert Erickson family into our ward. They were baptized and confirmed this past month.

A number of beautiful and exciting parties have been given during the past two weeks: the Primary, Society, Sunday School parties and the Christmas dance on the 18th. The Messiah was presented Sunday night, Dec. 19. We are fortunate in having so much talent with which to be entertained. Reader for The Messiah was Phillis Warnick from the Oakland Fifth Ward. We were also fortunate in having as guest organist, Gladys Olson from the Fourth Ward. The soloists are Esthrella Olszowka, Verna and Richard Johnson, Eunice Peterson, Florina Beasley, Eva Schleisch, Virginia Cherniak, Basil Cherniak with Esthrella conducting. The choir is singing at San Lorenza ward Jan. 16 at 5 p.m.

Golden Gleaners held their annual Christmas party at the home of Esthrella, with June, and Eva co-hostessing.

Rita Kaleikau flew to the islands for a months vacation with relatives and friends, dividing her time between Oahu and Maui islands.

Bee Hive Girls are working "like Bee Hive Girls" to raise money for their summer camp. They made and sold Christmas lapel pins and have more plans afoot as money-raisers. Bishop and Sister Higham took Linda to San Francisco so she could put in her order with Santa. Linda is feeling much better and is doing a good job with her school work at home.

The basketball team has done an outstanding job this winter and at the moment we don't know whether they will get to Salt Lake or not, but we're certainly pulling for them.

Dana Palmer graduated from Primary to the MIA during the past two weeks.

We miss Brother and Sister Carruth, but with them well and will be happily pleased whenever they can return to our ward for a visit.

Our love and sympathy is extended to the family of Sister Lofgren who passed away the second week in December. Her passing is mourned by all who knew her.

Marvin and Elaine Alexander welcomed their new baby boy during November.

Our most exciting news this month is taking place on "Cloud 9" since our beloved June Nielson has said "Yes" to Bill Ellenburg. Bill, who is a Cal graduate lives in Walnut Creek and is employed by the California Packing corporation. The marriage is planned for early spring.

Oakland Stake Social Calendar

SATURDAY NIGHT DANCES — ALAMEDA WARD

Saturday, January 7—Teen Gold and Green Party — San Leandro (Bee Hives and Scouts)
Saturday, January 15—Stake Family Party
Tuesday or Wednesday, January 18 or 19—Meet Me at Mutual (Wards)
Friday, February 4—Rose Prom . . . San Leandro
Saturday, February 5—High Priests' Party
Saturday, February 12—Sweetheart Ball (Oakland and Berkeley Stakes)

Oakland Stake Meeting Calendar

Sunday, January 9—Stake Priesthood Meetings . . . Oakland 2nd.
Thursday, January 20—Mia Stake Leadership . . . Oakland 2nd.

Centerville Ward

New Sunday School Leaders Selected

By Bernice Wilson

Bishop's Message:

Christmas and the holiday season are upon us and to all our ward members we heartily extend the seasons greetings. Our hearts should be filled now, more than ever with the spirit of giving. May we remember that it is "more blessed to give than receive". This means that the giver receives the greater blessing not the receiver. We have had a most eventful year, our membership has doubled and we have progressed from a branch to a ward. Even more important is the spiritual progress we have noted among our members. For all of this we are most grateful and we look forward to the New Year feeling that we can all continue in a like manner.

Bishop Francis Winkel

Our Sunday School organization is happy to announce the following officers: Brother Alma Scheuller as first counselor to fill the vacancy created when Brother George Balding accepted a call to serve in the Oakland Stake Mission. Brother Ray Truscott, our new second counselor in Sunday School fills the vacancy left when Brother Sam Bird moved from the ward.

Pat Hunt has been called to be assistant Secretary of Sunday School.

Primary Ward Preparation meeting was held at the home of Sister Helen Allen Dec. 2. Sister Allen had her home decorated for Christmas and after the lesson and business meeting the ladies exchanged Christmas gifts.

This month our Primary meetings have been used to practice a play for the annual Ward Christmas party Dec. 22.

Primary officers and teachers presented Sister Barbara Bird with a going-away-baby gift. Bar-

(continued on page three)

Berkeley Stake

Christmas Caroling

Berkeley young folks and their leaders went caroling all over Berkeley First and Second Wards during the pre-Christmas week, and this happy Christmas spirit was ably seconded by another group that did the serenading on Christmas eve.

Special appreciation for these yuletide carolings were the temporarily shut-ins. The unexpected mass singing, on one's front porch, of the joyous Christmas carols sent a bracing, tingling sensation racing down the spine.

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OAKLAND STAKE

New Members, New Buildings, Mark Oakland Stake Growth

Looking back at 1954, the big story in the Oakland Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is the population growth, Stake President Delbert F. Wright said today. In January 1954 total stake population was 6600 and there were nine wards and two branches. Early reports show that the new year will begin with 7500 member in eleven wards and one branch.

Of the two new wards created in the Oakland Stake in 1954, one was brought about just recently when Centerville branch became a ward. The other new ward was San Lorenzo, which in January, was created from parts of Hayward, San Leandro and Castro Valley wards.

Building Programs

Centerville ward, under the direction of Bishop Francis Wynkel, had 200 members at the first of the year, but now ward population has reached 350. A building program is underway, preliminary sketches are drawn, and the unusual "Benevolent Builders" project is already well developed to help finance the construction program.

Livermore Branch which had 130 members at the first of the year now has 180. Members plan to purchase a large house and lot, there, in order to develop a chapel program.

Oakland Fourth ward construction started this year, under the direction of Bishop Curtis R. Bybee. All of the block work is completed and it is expected that the main section of the chapel and recreation hall will be sheated and covered shortly after the first of the new year.

San Lorenzo ward, under the direction of Bishop Ostler expects to be able to build in the spring.

Oakland Fifth ward, under the direction of Bishop Paul E. Warnick, is eager to build, but plans have to wait until they can be correlated with Temple plans.

Missionary Work

One of the major contributors to growth in the wards of Oakland Stake, President Wright said, is the Stake Missionary system. For the year just completed we will exceed 150 converts. We are one of the large stake missions of the church, he reported.

Planning for next year, it is believed by stake leaders that enough population for a new ward can be added each year through the Stake missionary programs.

Other developments of 1954 include addition of the Ninth Elders' Quorum when San Lorenzo ward was added to the Stake family.

The year began with a change in the Stake Presidency. When Glenn Shaw moved to Salt Lake City, Elmo R. Smith, who was President Wright's second counselor, became first counselor; and Milton P. Ream, who was senior member of the Stake high council became second counselor.

Planning for 1955

Two major projects are in sight for 1955. One is building of an Inter-city Tabernacle on Temple hill, and the other, a prime target for the new year, is to bring into activity men who hold no priesthood, and senior members of the Aaronic priesthood, so that they can share in the joys of living the Gospel plan, President Wright said.

Construction of the Tabernacle on Temple hill will see some far-reaching and important changes in concept, stake authorities predict.

When a Tabernacle for this area was first discussed, it was planned as an Oakland Stake tabernacle. Oakland Stake was thinking of a tabernacle here with one ward; and Berkeley stake was thinking of a tabernacle jointly with two wards.

In July President Stephen L. Richards, representing the church presidency, and Brother Mark E. Peterson, representing the general authorities, met with Stake presidencies from Oakland and Berkeley stakes and focused attention on the possibility of having a tabernacle for both stakes, jointly, on Temple hill.

Harold R. Burton has been selected as architect for the proposed building, and is now preparing drawings and models. Tentatively scheduled for January 7 is a meeting of Presidencies from Oakland and Berkeley stakes and church building committee representatives.

Messenger Slogan

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San Leandro

New Organ Adds To Ward Meeting

We are exetremely happy with our new organ. It adds so much to our spiritual meetings. The members were very generous in their donations; the auxiliaries were, as usual, ready to cooperate in every way possible to promote the organ fund. We feel it is a wonderful Christmas gift to the ward.

Brother Gifford Jackson and Wilford Nelson, our former bishop and bishop's counselor, were appointed to stake high council. We are proud, indeed of these fine, humble men.

The senior fireside group is fortunate in having Sister Carolyn Clive, as their newly-appointed leader. She brings with her much talent and knowledge. Brother Clifford Clive, recently appointed Special Interest Instructor, is doing a terrific job.

Nona Borges is to be commended for the delightful Drama Night which was presented to the ward. The cast did beautifully—it reflects most admirably on the director.

Our basketball team is winner of the first round of play with Elwood Randall in the coaching capacity. There has been considerable spirit shown in the "rooting section" with Bobby DuBois and Donna Schipper as our attractive cheerleaders.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Richard Bednar who flew to Pittsburg, Pa., to attend the funeral of his brother, John.

Hal Hanson recently returned from a business trip to Lebanon, Oregon. Doris had the pleasure of going to Oregon and accompanying Hal home.

Dr. and Helen McBride and sons, Russ and Victor, spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bradeson, Helen's sister and husband, in Lemore. The Bradesons were former members of Richmond Ward.

Alameda Ward

Missionary Returns From South Africa

By Amelia Everett

Reta Blackburn is returning from a mission in South Africa. She is visiting with a brother in Topeka, Kansas and will visit a sister in Dallas, Texas. We expect to see her about the first of the year.

Ace and Joyann Packard send Greetings from National City, California where they have settled.

Lt. Cmdr. Clifton and Lucile Holliday and boys send Holiday Greetings from Japan. Lucile is teaching theology and has been asked to start a Primary. It is a small branch, made up chiefly of men from the ships. Imagine their delight when they met Elder Lloyd Gheen, Gary Gamblin and Brother Tracy, all from Alameda.

About 200 children attended the Primary-Sunday school party Friday, December 17.

The Ward annual dinner was well attended. It was pot luck.

Ward Conference Sunday, November 28 was well attended both sessions.

BABIES BLESSED: Ramona Stafford, Judy Anne Jones, Agnes Kay Nelson, David Franklyn Sequeira, Stephen Wade Gordon, Robert Anthony Gordon and Michael Paul Gordon.

CONFIRMED MEMBERS: Karen Roberta Ericksen, Cheryl Lynn Johnson, Frances Charlotta Morgan and Bruce Morgan.

Oakland 2nd Ward

Bishop Nethercott, Thanks; Bishop Rounds, Welcome

Bishop Truman Nethercott has ended five years of devoted service as a bishop and before that about five years as a bishop's counselor. Many hours of loving service have been rendered to others with no thought of himself. Bishop Nethercott is especially loved by the young people of his ward, and wherever they were, on their outside activities, in study groups, or whatever they were involved in, he was always there directing them and enjoying their friendship and confidences. We all join to give him our love and support in his new respsonsibilities.

Brother Glen C. Rounds of Oakland 2nd Ward, and formerly a member of the stake high council has been selected as our new bishop. We are all very happy to have him as our bishop and we know that his quiet and efficient manner will bring many happy years to our ward. Bishop Rounds has chosen as his counselors, Ted Mudge and Jack Melvin James. These able men were Bishop Nethercott's counselors. We know that they will continue in their good work.

Oakland 2nd Ward's annual ward carnival and bazaar Friday evening, November 12th was a huge success. There were games, chili, hamburgers, cake, ice cream, popcorn, and drinks. The Relief Society had many lovely pieces of handiwork for sale and many of the members did their Christmas shopping.

Sister Darlene Blake was honored recently at a nursery shower. Games were played and many lovely gifts were received by the honoree.

ABOUT JAPAN

By
Vinal G. Mauss

The New Year is the beginning of a new life in Japan. Every person is supposed, or determined, to turn a new leaf in the New Year. All accounts have to be settled by the New Year's eve, and all debts paid, according to the old-time ideas and practices, before the last day of the New Year. If you are in debt on New Year's day it is a bad sign for the new year. Every person gets one year older on New Year's day, although a birthday celebration is held on each anniversary day of birth.

In olden days, everybody had to observe the New Year's day solemnly, because it was considered to be too sacred for anybody to do anything wordly. Even the rooms were not cleaned on that first day of the year, already cleaned on the last day of the bygoing year, because sweeping off suggests something going off. According to the orthodox Japanese, a house is cleaned more for a religious reason, because "Kami" God will bring no good to an unclean house, than for a sanitary purpose.

On the New Year's day, everything has to be renewed: new dress, new kitchenware, new furniture, new table-ware, etc. And all these articles have to be "consecrated" with the decoration of pine-needle tied with a red-and-white cord. Each house has a pine-decoration before it, besides some other decorations of the occasion in every room. And every family will prepare special food for the New Year.

Calif. Welfare Region

(continued from page one)

more to do. For example, there are 140,000 cans of fruits, vegetables, and some beef, which are required for 1955 as compared to 130,000 for 1954.

Oakland and Santa Rosa Stake are the only stakes so far with a major agricultural project. Berkeley Stake is now in the process of obtaining a stake welfare farm, and others are contemplated for San Jose and Palo Alto stakes.

The Oakland stake farm, near Livermore-Pleasanton, has 35 acres seeded to pasture and it is expected that 20 to 20 cattle will mature each year. A permanent building is now on the farm, combining equipment and tool shed and granary and a permanent operator has been selected.

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New Sunday School Leaders Selected

(continued from page two)

bara and family are moving to Los Angeles next week and a new baby is due in January.

The Relief Society have enjoyed another month of fine lessons and spiritual enrichment to help us appreciate this wonderful gospel of ours. The visiting teachers are doing a faithful job, and we enjoy our work meetings to prove our ability of working together as Sisters in this glorious work.

Last work meeting we gift wrapped over a hundred fruit cakes, a project we have undertaken to boost the building fund. Orders have reached over the 250 mark. Sister Marge Silver has baked all of them. We certainly owe her a debt of gratitude for her efforts.

The Sisters also made beautiful Candle Christmas trees to adorn their homes for the holidays. A delicious luncheon was served by a committee and we enjoyed the presence of stake visitors Sister Meine and Sister Baler.

More News From Berkeley Second Ward

Announcement was made Sunday, December 26, of the engagement of Ruth Cain and Jack Smith. Both these young persons are well and widely known in the Berkeley and Claremont Wards. The wedding is planned for April.

Bro. and Sis. Milton Brinton had an auto accident early in December while driving in Nevada on their way to visit in Provo. Their car went off the road, and while Milton was trying to push it back he ruptured himself, and had to be hospitalized when he reached Provo. A heart condition developed just after he had been operated on for the hernia, and he was twice hospitalized for that malady.

Bishop Ward Green of the Berkeley Second Ward was called back to Idaho December 22 to attend the funeral of his mother, age 80, in McCammon. We understand that the bishop's father, who is nearly 87, is in good health yet.

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Symposium For Benefit of All Stake Missionaries

Our Bay area stake missionaries will appreciate the following brief statements of the beliefs and history of some large local Christian beliefs. They are all extracts from authoritative statements found in the current volumes of the World Book.

Especially interesting is the Church of Christ statement, since this is the sect which challenged Thomas S. Ferguson to debate their college professor Dr. James D. Bales, Nov. 8-14, in their 35th Avenue Chapel in Oakland.

CHURCH OF CHRIST OR DESCIPLES OF CHRIST

This is the organization of which Sidney Rigdon was one of the original leaders and great preachers before his conversion to the Restored Gospel. So also was Parley P. Pratt.

It originated in Western Pennsylvania, about Pittsburg, in the early eighteen hundreds. The ideal was to set in the Church primitive Christianity, faith, repentance, baptism, and to go by the New Testament and not by the creeds of the day.

Started by Thomas Campbell in 1809, this faith adopted by the son, Alexander, who spread the faith greatly. At first they tried to stay inside the Baptist fold because they were immersionists, but between 1827 and 1830 complete separation took place.

They have no authoratative creeded statement and think the New Testament sufficient guide in all spiritual matters. They observe the Lord's Supper weekly.

Alexander Campbell was an intellectual giant, but very set in his views. He was embittered at Sidney Rigdon's faith in Joseph Smith, and wrote one of the strongest diatribes against MORMONISM ever penned. Even today this sect has a marked antagonism against the Restored Church. They love fervid but fruitless debates, just as Alexander Campbell did. Attack they feel is the best defense.

—Adapted from The World Book Encyclopedia.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

The teachings of Christian Science are briefly but completely stated in Mrs. Eddy's principal book "Science & Health with Key to the Scriptures", which is read in connection with the Bible in the Sunday services and Wednesday evening meetings. Public reading rooms are maintained by all Christian Science Churches.

Founded in 1879 and reorganized in 1892, this Church is designed to "reinstate primitive Christianity and it's lost element of healing". The growth of the Christian Science Church has resulted largely from it's healing efforts.

The distinctive feature of Christian Science theology is it's teaching that "all reality is in God . . . that which He creates is good . . . therefore, the only reality of sin, sickness. or death is the fact that unrealities seem real to human, erring belief, until God strips off their disguise". They are not true, because they are not of God, Mrs. Eddy says.

Headquarters is in Boston where are published their Journal, the Sentinel, and the Christian Science Monitor, a well-known daily newspaper.

There are 200 Churches in the U.S. and more than 350 in other countries. Mrs. Eddy (1821-1910) was early a Congregationalist. Left a widow without means, and in frail health, but always a student of the Bible, in her distress, she wrought out her philosophy of health and religion, healing herself while suffering from a serious accident. This was in 1866. Within ten years she had pondered and produced her famous, "Science & Health with Key to the Scriptures" and in 1879 organized the Church of Christ, Scientist.

—Adapted from The World Book Encyclopedia.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

In England from early centuries to Henry VIII the Pope was universally acknowledged. Henry took advantage of his quarrel with the Pope to withdraw allegiance, announcing that the King of England always had been head of the Church there. In 1534 Parliament sustained King Henry.

A year before this Luther had started the revolt against Roman Catholicism, but real Protestantism, as we know it, was not established in England without severe struggles even up to Elizabeth's time. Then the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion were put in their present form.

The Church of England claims to teach and hold the doctrines of the Apostles. It is protected in it's ancient possessions by law. In Civil matters, it is under Parliament. There are today three divisions, the High Church, Low Church and Broad Church. The first group is nearest the Catholics in doctrine and ritual; the second group favor greater simplicity, the third group stands between the other two extremes.

England is divided into two provinces religiously—Canterbury and York, governed by Archbishops. The provinces are divided into dioceses with their Bishops. Below Bishops are Archdeacons and Deacons, Canons, Rectors, Vicars and Curates. The English Clergy are supported neither by the State nor entirely by contributions, but chiefly by endowments and bequests given by persons of means and liberality. The Church is excessively active in both foreign and home missionary work.

The American Protestant Episcopal Church was once a branch of the Church of England. The High Church party in America has made several ineffectual attempts to rename the Church, the American Catholic Church.

—Culled from the World Book Encyclopedia.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

This Church is so named because its local bodies are governed by Presbyters, or Elders, who elect the pastors. A pastor and the local elders comprise a session, which is under control of a presbytery composed of ministers and elders from each Church in a given district. The presbyteries combine to form a synod. Controlling all is the General Assembly to which complaints and appeals may be carried.

Presbyterian doctrine, in general, is strongly Calvanistic with the controlling ideas of the absolute soverignty of God and the acceptance of the Holy Bible. The sole requirement for membership is a credible profession of faith in Christ and obedience to Him. Pastors exercise no priestly functions. There are only two sacraments, baptism and the Lord's Supper.

At the time of the Reformation in the 16th Century, John Calvin organized the Reformed Church at Geneva under the plan of government now used by Presbyterians. He has been considered, therefore, the founder of this Church. Then in 1557 barons of Scotland united against revival of Catholic control, recognized the Reformed Doctrine.

In America the Scotch colonists greatly strengthened the Presbyterian Church. At present there are about 9,000,000 Presbyterians in the world. There are nine branches of this Church in America, the two largest being the Northern and the Southern which separated at the time of the Civil War.

The Westminister Confession of Faith is accepted by all Presbyterians.

—Adapted from the World Book Encyclopedia.

CONGEGATIONAL CHURCH

The name is derived from their belief that every congregation should be an independent body, exercising the right of electing or deposing its officers, of disciplining its members and determining it's own form of worship. There is no appeal to a higher Church body.

The modern Congregationalist movement originated at the time of the English Reformation, being identified with the radical wing of the Puritans, which advocated separation from the Church of England and therefore, became known as Separatists. Congregationalism was planted in America by the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth in 1820, and most of the early Puritan Churches were founded on the Congregational model.

This denomination in America has always been relatively strongest in the New England and Eastern States and it has been notably identified with higher education. Yale, Dartmouth, Amherst, Andover Theological Seminary owe their establishment to Congregational enterprise.

The doctrine of the Church affirms the principal of the Soverignty of God, the sinfulness of man, redemption through Christ as mediator, the indwelling of the Spirit, the observance of the Sacrament, the life of love and service and the future of joy and sorrow.

—Adapted from The World Book Encyclopedia.

Third Elders Quorum San Jose Stake Seek Debate Records

Walter Theobald of the third quorum of elders in San Jose Stake wrote to Thomas S. Ferguson December 20, seeking loan of a copy of the tape recordings of the November 8-14 series of debates between Elder Ferguson and James D. Bales of the Church of Christ.

In reply Att. Ferguson stated: "The debate recordings are in Salt Lake City where they are being transcribed at Church Headquarters. The debate will likely be published in printed form sometime in the next few month. I. B. Ball, 1612 Spruce Street, Berkeley, California, will handle distribution of the printed debate. Perhaps that will suffice for your needs. If you want copies of the actual recordings, I believe that we could make the tapes available to you at some future date. It is anticipated that the cost of the printed copies of the debates will be about $2.00 per copy. (signed) Thomas Stuart Ferguson."

Alexander Schreiner Organ Recital Set For April in S. F.

The American Guild of Organists has announced the engagement of Alexander Schreiner, the Salt Lake Tabernacle organist, for a special public recital Sunday afternoon of April 17 in the Civic Auditorium in San Francisco. Notice of this concert came to the Messenger from the secretary of the recital committee, Dr. R. K. Wakererling of the University of California Nuclear laboratory.

Mormon Girl,19, Named as Rose Queen

PASADENA, CALIF. (UP)—A Latter-day Saint girl, 19-year-old Marilyn Smuin, Friday was then wely chosen queen for the 66th annual Tournament of Roses and Rose Bowl football game.

Miss Smuin, a Pasadena City College sophomore, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Smuin of San Gabriel. They formerly resided in Ogden and Salt Lake City, Utah. Marilyn is California born.

The green-eyed honey blond was named queen from among 1,800 of the college's coeds Thursday following a lengthy judging contest which started during the fall.

She will be crowned at a Tournament of Roses coronation ball Dec. 28 and will reign over the annual rose festival and football game between the University of Southern California and Ohio State on New Year's Day.

The queen is five feet five inches tall and weighs 120 pounds. She is studying to be a grammar school teacher and intends to go to UCLA for the balance of her college days.

Church Chief Engineer Visits in Berkeley

Gen L. Enke, chief engineer for the LDS building committee in the office of the church architect visited in Berkeley First Ward Sunday December, 26 Before returning to Salt Lake he plans to meet with the Oakland Fifth Ward leaders regarding proposed additions to the chapel, (Dimond) now used by that ward and also Oakland Second Ward.

Elder Enke stated that the new church architect is Arnold Ehle, M.I.A.

Elder Enke is currently busy with his engineering assignments in connection with the dormitory structures now beeing erected on the campus of the B.Y.U. in Provo; additions and improvements on the Ogden Tabernacle and the Cardston, Canada Temple.

The Church is assisting also in the construction of many ward and branch chapels as in Oakland 4th, Concord and Pleasant Hill-Walnut Creek Wards.

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SAN FRANCISCO STAKE

S. F. Stake

Pres. Lauper Forsees New Year Bringing Best Stake Activity

President Serge J. Lauper of San Francisco Stake stated in a written interview for the Messenger in late December that he sees 1955 as the best year the stake has enjoyed in its manifold activities in any previous year.

Pointing out the marked improvement in Aaronic priesthood work, and the more efficient stake Sunday School functioning as two among many lines of distinct progress in the stake in 1954, the president also complimented the saints for distinct achievements which he listed as follows:

Approximately $800 added to the stake farm fund; the near completion of the San Rafael chapel; the five new classrooms at the Mission Ward Chapel; the more than $5300 raised by the special presentation "This is Cinerama" for the beginning of a fund for a "Recreation Center"; and the better organized established Chinese Mission group.

The Stake presidency extend to all the saints in San Francisco Stake their best wishes for a prosperous and happy year in 1955.

Non-Mormon Students At BYU Accept the Gospel

A recent survey by the Brigham Young University of 243 former BYU students who entered that college as non-Mormons, 23 per cent reported conversion to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Another 35 percent were pleased to report that their lives had been spiritually enriched. Sixty percent of those contacted responded.

Prof. R. R. Canning of the sociology department interpreted the results as an indication that the BYU is functioning as a valuable missionary institution of the Church.

Of the 34 Catholics, five have been converted; of the 165 Protestants, 33 have been converted, and of 44 unaffiliated, 21 have been converted.

The BYU students' newspaper, the "Universe" has been named one of seven college papers in the nation with a first-class rating.

Bud Stone of Berkeley was voted one of the ten "most preferred" men on the BYU campus, selected by the BYU coeds in a school-wide poll. Roger Sant of Los Angeles was named 'Most Preferred" man.

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Sunset Ward

Increased Activity Objectives for 1955

Ward objectives for 1955 include these ten items:

1. A well-organized ward library.

2. Active special interest class in MIA.

3. 10 percent of ward membership to visit a temple during the year.

4. 75 percent Aaronic priesthood individual awards.

5. 75 percent girls to achieve in girls' program.

6. 75 percent or better ward teaching each month.

7. Active Guide Scout patrol.

8. 50 percent attendance at sacrament service.

9. 1 percent ward membership in foreign mission field.

10. 2 percent ward membership in stake missionary work.

Congratulations are extended to the following members of the ward:

Howard G. Patton who was ordained an elder, James M. Kanzler who was ordained a priest and Edward A. Costa who was ordained a teacher.

Floyd Harold West who was set apart to work in the YMMIA.

Agnes Maria Nielsen was confirmedon December 5.

Kent and Charlene Goodman, whose daughter, Sherry Lynn, was blessed on December 5. Gordon and Mildred McCarthy whose daughter, Raleigh, was blessed the same day.

Basketball Men Win Third Place in Meet

By Helen Woo

Congratulations to our basketball team for winning third place!

We have been enjoying lovely sacrament meetings since we started them a few months ago.

Everyone had a wonderful time at the Christmas party which was held December 17.

Elder and Sister McAllister welcomed their newly arrived son, Craig.

Branch President Message:

In the Pearl of Great Price (Abraham 3:25-26) we are told the reasons for our being here on the earth. "We will prove them herewith, to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them."

The Lord speaking through Joseph Smith said, 'If thou lovest me, thou shall serve me and keep all my commandments." (Doctrine and Covenants 42:29).

I call your attention to the fourth commandment in Exodus 20, as found in the Bible, "Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy". To many people keeping the sabbath day holy is a matter of little moment. The sabbath is given us by God as a day for rest and worship. If we are not attending our worship services, and particularly our sacrament meetings, we cannot, then, say we are keeping the commandments, and God can only conclude that we do not love him.

Let us all be deligent in keeping the commandments, thereby showing our love for our Father in Heaven, and reaping the blessing of eternal life.

Odd News Bits With Local Slants

An armored car rolled up in front of Wells Fargo Bank in San Francisco November 4, 1954 to pick up a railroad spike and transport it to Stanford museum. Utahns are particularly interested because that spike had Utah connections.

The spike, it happens, is the one made out of California gold that was driven at Promontory, Utah, in 1869 to ceremoniously link the West and East coasts by rail. Leland Stanford left it to Stanford University at his death and the bank has had it in safe-keeping since 1927 . . .

The little Utah town of Moab, in the southeast desert area (now the uranium mining center) of Utah has interesting memories for Patriarch Isaac B. Ball of Berkeley Stake, editor of the Messenger. He spent a school year in Moab in 1901 and 1902 teaching a fourth grade class in which one pupil was Oscar McConkie, now father of President Bruce McConkie, of the First Council of Seventy . . .

Our many young people who are home for the holidays from the Brigham Young University report greatly enlarged enrollment as the "Y" again this year.

California stands next to Utah in the number of pupils enrolled, (1003), being ahead of Idaho (778), the other western states stand in order: Arizona 295; Oregon, 212; Nevada, 189; Washington, 179; Wyoming, 126; Colorado, 106, New Mexico, 71 and Montana, 54.

Hawaii sends 71 to the "Y"; New York 41; Maryland, 20; Illinois 36; North Carolina, 23; More BYU pupils are non-Utahns (4783) compared to Utahns, (3424). Forty seven of the 48 states are represented in the enrollment.

Local Latter-day Saints can be glad in the presence in our Bay area stakes of so many efficient doctors who have an abiding faith in our Heavenly Father.

Dr. Elmer Hess, president-elect of the American Medical Assn. (AMA) said in his inaugural address November 8, "any doctor who lacks faith in the Supreme Being has no right to practice medicine."

He added: "A physician who walks into a sick room is not alone. He can only minister to the ailing person with the material tools of scientific medicine—his faith in a higher power does the rest." The doctor's thesis boils down thus: a disbeliever has a perfect right to his disbelief, but he ought to enter other fields of work and not become a physician, for a doctor ministers to the whole person, the spirit as well as the body; each respectively having influence over health or ill health . . .

Our local LDS scientifc researchers are in harmony with Dr. Alton Ochsner, former president of the American Cancer Society which has reacted to the phony grant of large sums by the tobacco interests for the obstensible purpose of research into the physical effects of smoking . . . Dr. Ochsner charges that the real and sinister purpose of the tobacco interests in this grant of money is "to postpone a day of reckoning for the irresponsible advertising and sale of its products."

Hal Higgins Writes Book on John Horner

Hal Higgins of Walnut Creek is writing a book on John Horner, the first Anglo-Saxon farmer in Alameda County, the man who had come to California on the good ship Brooklyn of Mormon colonizers under the leadership of Sam Brannan.

Hal Higgins is corresponding with LDS historian, Annaleone D. Patton (Berkeley First) because of her extensive research on Horner. Higgins learned from Anna that Horner came from the Brooklyn colony; and Anna has learned from Higgins that Horner had business connections in those very early days with Salt Lake City.

Mr. Higgins for years had a large western agency for catapillar tractors and now has a California history hobby—particularly on John Horner.

S. F. Stake Meeting Calendar

JANUARY 1955:

Saturday, Jan. 1—7:00 p. m.—Baptismal Service at Stake House.

Sunday, Jan. 2—7:00 p. m.—Fast Sunday.

Monday, Jan. 3—7:45 p. m.—Stake Melchizedek; Senior Aaronic; and Aaronic Priesthood Committees.
—8:00 p. m. Stake Presidency and High Council.
Stake Conference (8th and 9th).

Saturday, Jan. 8—6:00 p. m.—Welfare Meeting.
8:00 p. m.—Priesthood Leadership meeting.

Sunday, Jan. 9—10:00 a. m.—General Session — 2:00 p. m. General Session — 7:00 p. m. MIA Session.

Monday, January 10—10 a. m.—Stake Primary Preparation Meet.
7:30 p. m.—Stake Presidency meeting.

Thursday, Jan. 13—10:00 a. m.—Relief Society Union Meeting.
7:30 p. m.—Cub Scout meeting.

Sunday, Jan. 16—2:30 p. m.—Stake and Ward Welfare Committees (on 3rd Sunday a/c Stake Conf.)

Monday, Jan. 17—7:00 p. m.—Stake Presidency and Stake Aaronic Prisethood Committee.
7:45 p. m.—Monthly Stake Priesthood meeting.

Thursday, January 20—7:00 p. m.—Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Committee meeting.
7:45 p. m.—Heads of Auxiliary Organizations, Stake Presidency and High Council. (Feb. Calendar dates to be checked)

Sunday, Jan. 23—High Council visits to all Wards.
2:30 p. m.—Stake Sunday School Monthly Prepartion meeting.

Monday, Jan. 24—7:30 p. m.—MIA Stake Leadership meeting.
7:45 p. m.—Stake Presidency meeting.

Monday, Jan. 31—7:45 p. m.—Stake Presidency meeting.

S. F. Stake Social Calendar

SOCIAL EVENTS:—JANUARY

Friday, Jan. 7—Mission Ward Host to Stake Party.

Friday, Jan. 14—Program and Reception for Elbert D. Curtis, General Supt., YMMIA.

Saturday, January 29—Jr. M-Men and Jr. Gleaner Snow Trip.

LDS Chapel Mural Eight by 13 Feet By University Artist

The following news note came from Utah in early December:

Mabel Frazer, Utah artist and retired professor of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Utah, has completed a painting entitled "Christ's Leave - taking from his Nephite Disciples" which is now in the LDS chapel at 453 South 11th East, Salt Lake City. Research for authentic information for the painting took Miss Frazer twice to South America and Central America. She spent eight years on the painting which is 13½ feet in length and 6 feet high.

BYU Archaeological Tour Of Mexico Set June 10

A non-profit, non-commercial tour for students and other adults interested in the best known sites of archaeological, historic, artistic, literary, and scenic value in Mexico is announced by the B.Y.U. Visits will also be made to LDS Mission headquarters, church members, and church services.

The 22-day conducted tour with all expenses paid except meals in the U.S. and Mexico City, and personal expenses, will cost $310. University credit in Spanish and in archaeology may be earned.

Applications are now being received at the BYU Travel Studies, Provo, Utah.

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SAN FRANCISCO STAKE

S. F. Stake

San Francisco Ward Again Cops Honors In Stake Basket Ball Tournament

By Beryl Theurer

M. I. A.
ACTION IN SPORTS

San Francisco Ward again won top place in the Stake M Men Basketball League with a total of 10 wins. Other final standings are: Mission ward, second; the Chinese branch, third; a tie for fourth between Sunset and Balboa; and Balboa II sixth.

John MacMaster of Sunset was high scorer with 161 points in nine games. Runner-up was Allen Tuttle of Mission ward with 148 points in ten games.

The next hurdle for the San Francisco Ward team will be the games with the winners from other stakes in the division.

"SACRED TO ME" EVENING

"Sacred to Me" was the theme of the evening when 45 Jr. Gleaner girls and their mothers gathered at the Stake House on November 30. The guest speaker was Elsie Hilton of Berkeley who beautifully expressed her ideas on "Clean Living." A short musical program was furnished by the girls.

THANKSGIVING DANCE

"Bounties of the Harvest" set the atmosphere for the Thanksgiving Dance, sponsored by the Stake M.I.A. on November 26 and set amid the scene of the harvest field with pumpkins, turkey and cornstolks, and the yellow and brown of the profuse autumn leaves.

Cherished friends of Shirley Little witnessed her marriage to Fred Behrmann at a home wedding on Friday, December 10. The beautiful singing of Charmaine Halverson preceded the ceremony performed by Bishop Willard Barton of Balboa Ward. Shirley serves as M.I.A. stake dance director.

BIRTH

LeNea, the third little daughter of Y.M. Activity Counselor Dick Lambert and Dolores, was born on December 15.

Y.W.M.I.A. Marion Nelson is convalescing from her recent operation at her mother's home in Payson, Utah, until the New Year. Dr. Merle Morris, stake age group dental office at 5750 Foothill Blvd. in Oakland.

Plans have been formulated for a special conference for the San Francisco Stake M.I.A. on January 14 to meet with General Superintendent Elbert Curtis from Salt Lake City, reports Superintendent Fred Grow.

PRIMARY

A little daughter was born to State Blazer leader Josephine Abegg in November. Eloise Thomas of Balboa ward joins the stake board as Guide leader. The final preparation meeting of the year December 13, was in the form of a testimony meeting with stirring responses by the primary workers in the stake.

RELIEF SOCIETY

President Gladys Winter announces the Stake Relief Society Union Meeting for January 13.

Josephine Danford, stake magazine agent, is released from the hospital to convalesce at home for a few weeks.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday Schools in the stake for the month of November reached a high point of 40.5% average attendance, equaling a high reached in April, 1954.

The percentage of ward population attending Sunday School during November is: Balboa, 32 percent; Balboa II, 37 percent; Mission, 48 percent; San Francisco, 54 percent; San Rafael, 32 percent; and Sunset, 40 percent.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS TO HOLD SIX-STAKE CONVENTION

The Sunday Schools of San Francisco Stake will join Berkeley, Oakland, Santa Rosa, Palo Alto, and San Jose Stakes in a 21-department Sunday School convention, January 23, 2:00-4:00 p.m. The departments will be conducted by members of the Sunday School General Board from Salt Lake City, Utah, and will be divided among five ward chapels.

The stake Sunday School superintendency enjoyed Sunday School with the Chinese mission on November 12. Visiting were Wesley Tolley, Paul Stewart, Russell Hulme, Jennie Starkey, and Alice West.

PERSONALLY . . .

From Wellesley College came Claudia Lauper to spend the holidays with her family, President and Mrs. Serge J. Lauper.

Thirty-Nine Years Continuous Teaching Since Beginning 1915

By Amelia Everett

Emma A. Eliason of Alameda, California started teaching Sunday School in 1915 in Grantsville, Utah, (Second Ward). After 28 years of service a party was given honoring her and Miss Mabel Johnson in Alameda Ward.

On Oct. 1, 1945, the Eliasons arrived in Alameda. Sister Emma missed one Sunday of teaching; then Supt. Rodney Pocock put her in charge of a class. She has continued teaching to this date.

Bishop Arnold B. Baugerter (left) is presenting a floral token of appreciation to Emma A. Eliason of Alameda Ward in recognition of her long record of service (28 years) as a teacher in Church Sunday Schools.

Another Candlelight Dinner By Special Interest

The traditional Christmas Candlelight Dinner of the Special Interest Group of the M.I.A. was held Saturday, December 11 at the Stake House. Since the first was held five years ago with 125 people present, this delightful evening of good food and entertainment has become on of the most important social affairs on the stake calendar.

The entertainment this year came both before and after the excellent ham dinner. When the diners were seated at the beautifully decorated and candlelit tables, the nationally famous Dave Brubeck, a leader in the field of progressive jazz, and his quartette entertained with several numbers. S. F. Stake enjoyed this treat because of the long friendship between Dave and Jim Tomlinson of San Rafael Ward, who was master of ceremonies.

Following the dinner, the remainder of the entertainment was introduced: Community singing of Christmas carols, duets by Shiela Peterson and Helen Politis of Mission Ward, contralto solos by Pauline Law of S. F., a male quartette from San Rafael, and finally a hilarious skit from San Rafael, depicting a small children's Christmas program and pageant. Elaine Reid was harrased school teacher, with members of the choir, as the irrespressible children.

Before the evening ended, Byrl Theurer of the M.I.A. stake board was called to the stage to take a bow for the success of another candlelight dinner, the fifth since she became Special Interest Leader. Gideon Marquardt was responsible for the well prepared dinner, and Clarence Giles of Sunset for the table decoration.

Mission Ward

Joseph Harper New Mission Ward Bishop

By Gay Miller

After 20 years of faithful service as Bishop of Mission Ward, Wallace N. Allred was released to be Second Counselor to President Lauper in the San Francisco Stake.

Brother Frank Hess, who has served with Bishop Allred as First Counselor for many years, moved across the bay. Brother Joseph Harper, the remaining counselor, was sustained as Bishop with Frank Miller as First Counselor and Vinal Lefler as Second Counselor. Milton Hindman remaining as Ward Clerk.

Saturday evening, November 27, the new Bishopric, supported by the Ward members, gave a very nice party for President Allred and Brother Hess, presenting them with gifts and thanks for their services and friendship the past years.

The Ralph Hardistys Visit Old Friends, Places in Bay Area

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hardisty, who were so well and favorably known up to a few years ago while they were raising their family in the Berkeley and Richmond areas, visited the Messenger's editor December 20 and renewed old friendships.

They are now living at a small logging town, Hobart Mills, in the "tops of the mountains", being seven miles north of Truckee. Ralph is maintenance man for the Fiber Board Products Company logging operations there. This huge organizations ships its logs to their Antioch plant where fiber board and other wood products are fabricated.

Richard Hardisty, youngest son, has been at the BYU, but leaves soon for the French Mission. Zola is Mrs. Quenton Taylor of San Juan Bantista, and Larry, living on Hearst Avenue, is a member of Berkeley First Ward.

Northern California Mission Counsels Improved Prayers

The following article was printed recently in the Mission bulletin of the Northern California Mission.

Prayer is the linking of the congregation with God for the particular meeting or social. Prayer should carry the feeling of the moment, and is not a prepared static thing. The person who represents the group in asking the Lord's blessings should let it come from the heart.

However there are definite things we can do to improve our prayers.

1. Before giving the prayer, think through it. Every good prayer has a fine central thought. What are we sincerely grateful for at this time? What are our greatest needs? Be sure every prayer uttered is appropriate to the occasion. The prayer at a prayer meeting would be quite different from that at the opening of an M. I. A. meeting.

2. In addressing Deity always use "Thee," "Thou," "Thy," and "Thine," rather than the intimate "You."

3. Since a prayer is one's own creation, avoid trite expressions. Although the following expressions are perfectly all right, still through their too frequent use they may become habitual and cease being an expression of the heart."

(a) "Bless what' is said and done that it might be of benefit to us in our future lives."

(b.) "Bless all from the greatest to the least." (Who are the least?)

(c) "May we have a portion of Thy spirit? (Why not go all the way and ask for "Thy spirit or influence?")

(d.) "We come before thee."

(e. "While we further wait before thee."

(f.) "Bless those who are not here this time that they might come next time."

(g.) "Bless the teacher that he may put over the lesson in a pleasant manner before thee, or better than last time, or that he may teach us something worth while." (Woudn't it be more suitable to pray that the listeners could develop a frame of mind to be receptive to the truth?)

(h.) "Go with us to our several places of abode."

(i.) "Bless each and every one of us." ("Each and every" is repetitious.) (We do not suggest the complete elimination of these expressions, but their too frequent use can become habitual.)

4. Avoid too frequent repetition of the name of deity, such as "Our Father in Heaven," "Father," "God," etc., within the body of the prayer.

5. Prayers should be present in the soul before being formulated in words.

6. When praying for a group, the spokseman should always use the plural prououn "we" rather than the singular prououn "I."

7. Keep prayers simple and sincere. A prayer is not a sermon.

8. Speak clearly, distinctly and loudly enough to be heard.
strain. Remember —the one who prayers is voice for the whole congregation none of whom could logically say "amen" to a prayer that was not heard.

9. Be sure to include the two essentials. In begining the prayer address the Father, and in the conclusion ask these blessing in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ.

10. Remember alway to express gratitude for the blessings of the past and present.

Rivers and Seas

By E. L. Howard
(S. F. High Councillor)

It has been said that, "It is by following the paths of least resistence that rivers and men become crooked." and "By following the river one always comes to the sea."

Now a river has as its head point the limit of the carrying power of the wind; because the higher and farther from the sea the rains and winds travel, the longer and more useful the run to the sea. If the impurities gathered during the run from the headwaters and mud fill the river it is made useless to man. Only by a dam or some change can such a river be used. It must be dredged, cleaned, and deepened before it is of value. But almost invariably it reaches the sea and its final destination.

So with man his starting point here depends on how high he traveled along the road of intelligence in the first estate. When old age is reached and that long trip through the troubles of youth has been won, man settles down for the easier run to the sea. Which sea? the sea of eternal life or the sea of despair? If from the starting point, man kept pure, stayed away from the filth of life, then during this last stretch he is going to be deep, full of knowledge and wisdom, broad and understanding, smooth and steady in action and thoughts, he will be useful to mankind. On the other hand, if he picked up the filth of life, he will be so muddy and full of debris that only a thorough dredging and cleaning will ever prepare him for service—and like some rivers he may have picked a route that leads to destruction and deserts of eternal damnation, the seas of the dead.

As the sea again sends more rain to the hills to keep rivers in existence, so does the Great Man make it possible for his children, if they reach the sea of life to send other spirits to an earth life that the river of life, the race of men, might never run dry.

E. L. HOWARD

BYU Dean Chosen Head Japan Institute Group for 1955

Dr. Wesley P. Lloyd, dean of students at Brigham Young University in Provo, will head a team of three American specialists who will go to Japan in March, 1955, as leaders of an advanced training institute in student personnel work at the University of Tokyo.

The Rockefeller Foundation has granted funds for the project to cover services of the American specialists and incidental expenses.

It is expected that the training institute which Dean Lloyd will head will devote major attention to student counseling techniques and to the administration of student personnel work.

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PALO ALTO STAKE

Palo Alto Stake Increases 625 In Membership During Year; Four New Stake Units Formed

By Stanley Gibb

The year 1954 closes with some 625 more members of the Church on record in the Palo Alto Stake than at its opening. This increase represents enough new people to set up and operate a complete new ward in the Church. In fact, not one new ward, but three wards and a branch have come into existence during 1954.

This phenomenal growth stems to a great extent from the completion and dedication of four new Ward Chapels during 1953: San Mateo, February 22; Burlingame, September 13; Los Altos, November 29; and Palo Alto, December 13.

On April 11, 1954, San Bruno Ward was created from the northern part of Burlingame ward, with bishoprics as follows: Burlingame: Richard I. Palmer, bishop; James Ira Young and Howard Peterson, counsellors. San Bruno: Thomas J. Curtis, bishop; Bryan Espenshied and Whitney Groo, counsellors. On October 24 Whitney Groo was sustained as first counsellor when Bryan Espenshied moved from the ward, and John Parry was named second counsellor.

Coastside Branch

Members of the Church residing on the Pacific coastside, having increased in activity, made it necessary to organize the Coastside Branch, dependent on the San Bruno Ward, on November 14. Branch president is Seymour P. Stead, with Robert Parry and Reuben Burrell, counsellors.

November 21 was the accasion when the San Mateo Ward division was affected. Dividing the ward at 28th Avenue, members northward remain in the San Mateo Ward, with Frank A. Martin, bishop; Angus C. Fox, Jr. and Adrian Sant, counsellors. San Mateo Second Ward, comprising the Hillsdale and Belmont areas is presided over by Worth W. Daniels, bishop; Lloyd N. Johnson and C. Elmo Smith, counsellors.

Last phase of the ward expansion program came on December 12 when Redwood City Ward gave up part of its membership to the new San Carlos Ward. Bishopric of Redwood City: Robert Callister, bishop; Stanley Durant and William Brew, counsellors. At the head of the new San Carlos Ward, which reaches to Jefferson Avenue in Redwood City, are: Claude Stevens, bishop; Alvin L. Gentry and Keith E. Merrill, counsellors.

Stake Mission

Palo Alto Stake is proud of the Stake Mission accomplishments. With some 75 stake missionaries now actively engaged in the work, the year 1954 will show close to 100 new converts through this means. In the foreign field the Stake is represented by seven missionaries, each reporting success and a growing affection for the work.

Outstanding achievement for the year 1954 is therefore growth and more growth. Growth in numbers and growth in activity and spirituality. All wards are well organized and functioning; all auxiliary organizations on the stake level are doing an outstanding service to the ward auxiliaries, all adding up to a finer achievement in developing a testimony in the hearts of the members.

Our stake badly needs facilities for the recreational activities of our young people. None of our ward recreation halls will house the stake havest and gold and green balls, nor can we find adequate public facilities for these important social activities. Indeed, our chapels are now just capable of housing those who attend the quarterly conferences. We hope befor too long to be able to meet these demands by providing the necessary facilities for these activities.

Direct Wire Services

We delight in reporting that the priesthood meeting of the October general conference was brought to our stake by direct wire from the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. Likewise we have enjoyed the last two conferences via television and radio, alive and direct from the Tabernacle.

Each of our wards presents an active and capable choir, so necessary in helping to improve the spirituality of our sacrament meetings.

For the year ahead—we see still more growth, in numbers, in activity and in spirituality. At present rate of increase we see divisions coming to other wards in our stake, and eventually a new stake in this area.

San Bruno Ward

Plans For Dinner Benefit Building Fund Going Forward

It has been announced that there is going to be a dinner for the benefit of the San Bruno Ward building fund sponsored and put on by the elders quorum. The date has been tentatively set for January 29th, and it is rumored that turkey with all the trimmings will be the menu. Although plans have not yet been completed, the committees have been given their assignments and work has been started. Please reserve this date and look forward to something special.

The annual Elders Quorum progressive dinner, under the chairmanship of Lamont Williams was held on December 3rd, and was a huge success. The dinner progressed from the home of Brother Fejes to that of Brother Oyler and from there to the home of Brother Bob Peterson, after which an evening of dancing was enjoyed by those who participated.

Three new members were welcomed into the Elders Quorum this month: Leo Barretta, Kenneth Campbell and Roland Baughman.

On December 15th a group of the Aaronic Priesthood had an enjoyable swim and qualification trials were held at the Paddock pool in San Mateo.

On Monday night, December 20, the MIA and choir gathered together and spent a wonderful evening singing Christmas carols at a few homes of members of the ward who were ill, and also at the San Mateo Community hospital, after which the group enjoyed refreshments and dancing.

Members of the San Bruno Ward and Burlingame combined to enjoy a two-ward dance on December 31st. Music was furnished by Paul Law and his band and everyone had a most enjoyable time.

The Stake Fashion show was held on December 11, 1954 and included among the models were the following girls from the San Bruno ward: Dena De Yong, Claudia Curtis, Carole Stapp, Sonja Waggoner, Darla McIlhenney, Dixie Lee Powell and Judy Campbell. The fashions ranged from daytime wear to sleep wear, and many of the costumes were designed by the girls themselves.

The San Bruno Ward Green and Gold Ball will be held January 28 and it is anticipated that all who attend will be provided with a very pleasurable evening.

Burlingame

Auxiliary Officers, Teachers Ward Party

By Lynette Arnason

A wonderful time was enjoyed by all at the annual Burlingame Ward Christmas party, December 21. The party began with a lovely program participated in by members of all ages. Later Santa Claus arrived on the scene with stockings for all. Then the young people went about caroling in trucks to various homes. Upon their return refreshments were waiting for all.

A January 13th party is planned for all Ward officers and teachers in the various organizations, with their partners. This activity will feature games, dancing, and refreshments. The purpose of this party is to unite the officers and teachers for the coming year.

The combined Burlingame-San Bruno seminary held a progressive dinner, December 23. Four courses were featured—appetizers at the home of Norlene Lloyd, salad at Dixie Lee Powell's home, and the main course at Wini and Diana Revo's house. All gathered at the chapel for dessert, and later participated in games and dancing.

Want to Spend Nite At White House? Newlyweds Can

The following letter dated Dec. 3, 1954, came to the office of the California Intermountain News, LDS organ in So. California so that interested, young couples may make White House reservations.

"I own the White House at Washington, Utah, just four miles east of the Temple. It is a first-class motel and I would like to invite Dale B. and his bride to spend their wedding night in the motel as my guests without charge. And, for the next five months I will be willing to extend the same invitation to any other young couple that has the privilege of spending the first night in the "White House in Washington". It would give them something to talk about afterwards.

"The motel is in charge of a Mrs. Peterson and I am instructing her to extend this accommodation to every young couple who present to her a marriage certificate showing their marriage that day in the St. George Temple. If you wish, you may give publicity to this effect in your paper, which I read with great interest each week because of the large number of friends I have in the Los Angeles area.

Sincerely, your brother,
PERRIS S. JENSEN"

Walnut Creek

Ward Choir Organized Ethel Mauss Chorister

The ward choir was reorganized again after several months of inactivity. Sister Ethel Mauss will be the new director with Brother Maurice Murrows president, and Kenneth Everett organist. At the present time there are about 35 members with the expectation of doubling that number in a very short time. Their first appearance as a choir unit was December 12th; the presntation of the Christmas Cantata "World's Redeemer" on December 26th climaxed the Christmas holidays.

Sister Mauss has quite a background of experience in the music field. She is the wife of Bishop Vinal G. Mauss who with his family served over two years as president of the Japanese Mission. He had served also as bishop in the Oakland Stake. We wish all success to this group, and know that in the future they will be able to add inspiring music to the ward service. ..With the moving of Brother Richard Bassett back to Palo Alto, the building finance committee was reorganized with Brother Bert Leavitt as the new chairman. Brother Leavitt recently moved here from Hayward.

One of the most intersting Fireside groups of the Walnut Creek Ward is the Senior Aaronic Fireside, which meets every third Sunday at the various members homes. They have been studying the Book of Mormon under the guildance of Brother Rudolph Fjellstrom.

With the year drawing to a close the ward has seen many things accomplished and sees many more to be accomplished in the new year. Cake sales, rummage sales, light globes along with other sales helped our ward reach the assesment goal for the stake welfare. Seminary has been started, and he new chapel has been put to use by the different orgnizations. We have felt that the newyear will bring about the completion of the chapel and dedication of it. Already the class section is being used to its full capacity.

DIANE BYRNE MARRIED TO PAUL M. TANNER

Diane Byrne and Paul M. Tanner were married Tuesday evening at the home of the bride's parents by Bishop Robert G. Larson. The bride given in marriage by her father was attended by her sister Melanie and Robert Lee was the best man. Paul is the son of Brother and Sister C. L. Tanner of Salt Lake City, Utah. Diane met Paul when she was back in Salt Lake studying music, where Paul is a student at the University of Utah.

The young couple will be living in Salt Lake City after the first of the year where they both will finish school.

Two showers were held for the young couple. The first given by Mrs. Robert Patrick, which was a kitchen shower and the other by Sister Helen Snel as a miscellaneous shower.

BIRTHS

Walnut Creek

Russel Hodgson - a boy born December 13.

M. Beck, a girl born December 12.

Well Wilkinson, a girl born November 15.

WEDDINGS

Walnut Creek

Diane Byrne and Paul Tanner, married December 21 in Walnut Creek by Bishop Robert G. Larsen.

Local Genealogists Find Book Institutional

(continued from page one)

back to Norwich. Mrs. William Urmy, 1011 Church Street, S. F. reports locating relatives on David Dewey lines Macomb Ill., and will exchange valuable data on Erastus White and Eleanor B. Eaton of Tunbridge, Vermont lines, with L.D.S. families. The film by Mrs. G. E. Schier has been "going the rounds" inspiring genealogists through knowing the beauties of North Wales, Scotland, and other islands around Great Britain. Any individual interested in genealogy is welcome to purchase either the S. F. Stake or Berkeley Reference Books as much of the material is original source data.

Just a reminder, if you want to start the New Year with resolutions to do more genealogy work, try sending for either of the two stake books for your genealogical work; they will keep you busy and happy for many years. A limited number of copies are on hand now. S. F. State Reference Books —$1.75 by mail. Berkeley Stake Books—$1.65 by mail. Address: Mrs. G. E. Schier, 2700-22nd Street, San Francisco (10) California.

HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS SIZE FOR THE MESSENGER? APPROVE?

Some of our readers stated that the large, eight-column Messenger was a little too large to handle easily, and that they preferred the five-column format for church paper. We come to you in this tabloid form for your appraisal in this January, 1955, issue. Replies welcome.

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"Behold I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek shall suddenly come to his temple."
—Malachi 3:1.

Planning Ahead: Looking Forward to '55

Editorial

We used to hear and think more about New Year's resolutions a few years ago than we do now. Perhaps some persons still indulge in setting goals ahead for the new year. Most of us have not taken time to ask ourselves what we'd like to accomplish in our lives in 1955.

It might be interesting at this time of the year to stop a moment and do something along the line of planning what we shall aim to accomplish by this time next year. We hear that business men commonly do this to some extent. We've heard of the year's sales goals set by life insurance executives and salesmen, for instance. They seem to feel such planning helps towards greater achievements than just going ahead without set goals.

Maybe personal annual achievement goals for our private lives would also help each of us to accomplish more year by year. Would a frank and earnest resolution to read at least a few minutes every day along some specific line of our interests give us the thrill of personal improvement? It might be in literature, history, religion, or our particular vocational or avocational interest.

Our Church has four standard works, but how many members have to confess they have not read them thru yet? We feel we should have done this, but we just haven't gotten around to it.

Would a resolution to read at least ten minutes a day in the Book of Mormon help us to get the thing done this year?

When one starts taking music lessons, if a person really is going "to get anywhere" he must hold himself faithfully to a daily practice period. No doubt a somewhat similar resolution regarding our religious reading is a good and necessary thing, and would give us a thrill of accomplishment as well as a knowledge of our sacred religion at the end of the year 1955.

Jesus Testifieth of Himself

Commentary: Converts today will tell you, if you ask them, that everything is different since they were baptised; life is full of purpose and meanig. Indeed they confess it is like passing from death into life.

"For the Father judgeth no man, but hath commited all judgment unto the Son:

"That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

"Verily, verily I say unto you, He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live." — John 5: 22 - 25.

Life's Interesting, Isnt It?

By I. B. Ball

We've been around visiting lately and seeing some odd and interesting things. Out in old Dimond Ward (Oakland 3rd) they have an efficient bishopric composed of a hardware dealer, a mortician and a plasterer! It seems that on the vocational level they could serve one either coming or going. We noted on one of the front seats dear 89-year-old Martha McKaig with her companionable niece. Martha chatted as jovially as ever. . . . On the evening's program with us was young 17-year-old Bennett. We remembered seeing him seven times on seven consecutiv days at the last November debate series between Tom Ferguson and "J. D." Bates over in the Church of Christ chapel on 35th and Allendale.

Up in El Sobrante when we were riding homeward with Phil and Mrs. Lewis from Dwight Lenzi's home from the elder's Fireside there, December 19, Phil pointed out the route of the projected new highway 40 across San Pablo Avenue by an overpass, and onward thru El Sobrante. . . . Bishop Cleon Fitt of Rodeo at the Fireside commented on the expected rise in Rodeo Ward's membership on account of housing developments in the area. It looks as tho Rodeo and Concord will soon lead the wards in Berkeley Stake!

This in contrast to the statement of Bishop Esperson of East Richmond Ward made earlier that same evening to us as we rode with him to attend that ward's evening service—his statement that East Richmond's population has fallen in 1954 from 518 to about 465 (as of the present). The cause of this decided drop in population in East Richmond Ward was clearly demonstrated to us when the bishop drove past the scores of recently dismantled war-built government housing units (scores of others still only partly occupied and being readied for dismantling), all totaling near to fifty multiple-unit structures, or over 200 family apartments.

Sister Marcelle and Ray Karpus (Claremont Ward) completed in late December an odd six-weeks stint as housekeepers. They pinch-hit as parents for a family of four children (in an Oakland Ward) while the mother was being taken to Europe by her husband for special treatments.

But on arrival in London the ill lady was told by physicians to return to Chicago because in that city, they said, is the world's best specialist for the malady in question! The result is still in doubt, we hear.

My Testimony

By Mabel B. Liddell

The gospel of Jesus Christ gives opportunity for the eternal endurance of family love and relationship, a privilege so beautiful and assuring that it far transcends any other human concept. Like all other blessings of our Heavenly Father, however, this blessing must be earned. Our responsibility in genealogical research and temple work for our loved ones who have had no knowledge of this principle, is as vital as our own salvation. Recently I heard an especially significant and tender testimony in this regard by Brother Ervin S. McDonald, member of the High Council of San Francisco Stake and teacher of science in the city high schools. He states that he has been somewhat engaged in temple work all of his adult life, but recently has felt that he should do much more in regard to records.

During the early morning hours of May 26th, 1954, he dreamed that his father, who had died some years ago, came to visit him. They embraced each other and Brother McDonald states that he was greatly moved by the depths of affection that his father felt toward him. He also noted that his father appeared much younger than when last seen. He arose immediately after the dream at 4:45 AM and wrote the incident in detail, placing the account in his Bible. Part of his record is as follows:

In a Dream

"In a dream, father, Francis McDonald, came to me to say that the family genealogical work was not progressing as it should and he asked me to get to work at straightening out our records. I wept because I knew more was expected of me than I could do. I outlined for him my work as a ward teacher, Senior Aaronic priesthood leader, evening school and other duties assigned by my bishop and in the high council. However, I promised him I would do all I could.

"He stated that he had endeavored to see that this work was done but conditions did not make it possible. I again promised to do my best.

"He started up some stairs to leave me, and I called to him, asking if it would be possible to have help from him or other heavenly beings. He smiled and said that I would be able to do it, if I worked at it."

After this visit, with its attendant meaning, Brother McDonald arose and after writing the event he took up the Book of Mormon and there as it opened he noted the passage in I Nephi - 3-:7, "I will go and do the things which the Lord hath commanded for I know that the Lord giveth no commandment unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them that they may accomplish the thing which he commanded them."

100 Years Ago Old Clipping Tells How Mormons Came

Nov. 17, 1854—According to reports, about 2,600 Mormon emigrants leave Liverpool during the first three months of each year. The average cost of the journey is about 30 pounds for steerage passengers. They arrive in New Orleans and still have 3,000 miles to go. The first part of this journey is up the Mississippi, and when they leave the river, they stil have 1,000 miles to travel by wagon.

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Matthew Cowley Warns Effect of Foods On Him and Islanders

Matthew Cowley spoke at the Oakland Stake conference a few months before his death in 1953 from a heart ailment. He was not well at the conference and did not speak long, but he spoke of his illness and said it had come upon him because of wrong eating habits and lack of proper foods.

Elder Cowley delivered an address in Salt Lake City, December 8, 1953, in which he told of the physical deterioration which he personally observed between the years 1919 and 1938 among the Mauris of New Zealand. He tells that the cause lay in the fact that they began eating the white man's artificial foods instead of the natural foods used previously. He says:

.."In New Zealand the Mauris lived in the high places before the white man came. They lived up in the high, healthy levels, and their villages, or paus as they called them, were always immaculate. They lived on the fish from the sea and especially seaweed, which is one of the finest foods in the world because the minerals from the hills and all the fine nourishment from the soil go down into the ocean, and the seaweed grows from that wonderful soil. So those people lived on fish and seaweed and wild pigeons, and were a magnificent race.

"When I went to New Zealand in 1914, I never saw a native, I don't care how old he was, who didn't have good teeth, wonderful teeth. When I went back in 1938, I never saw a native who did have good teeth. Between 1919, when I came home, from my first mission, and 1938 those people had gone with the pack. They'd turned over to the white man's food. They drank tea; they ate a lot of sugar; all their drinks were sweet drinks; they ate meat three or four times a day, and cake, and every other kind of food which they had never known before the whiteman went there. Now the white man's trying to get them back on a good diet, trying to teach in school the foods which will build up their bone structure and cause them to have teeth longer than they do now."

LDS Archaeologist Pens Article in National Monthly; Early American Iron

Brigham Young University faculty member, John L. Sorenson, of the department of archaeology, recently published an article in a nationally recognized technical journal.

It tends to further support claims made by the Book of Mormon in connection with the use of metals in ancient America.

Prof. Sorenson's article lays no claim to any discovery, but, rather serves to remind the archaeological world of an earlier find. He reports on two specimens of metal of early date, both of which indicate the presence of metal-workings America from 500 to 800 years earlier than the date generally accepted by archaeologists, viz., about 900 A.D.

These specimens had gone generally unnoticed by the archaeological world, until Prof. Sorenson's article appeared in July 1954 edition of **American Antiquity**, an importan archaeological journal.

Additional examples of early specimens of metal have been noted by Prof. Sorenson in a more extensivé article now in press.

—B.Y.U "Universe',' Oct. 14, 1954

Story of the Utah Sea Gulls, Crickets Retold by Minister

(As told, December 3, 1954, over radio station KRE, Berkeley, California, by Dr. Lillian Hopper, pastor of the Church of Religious Science, Oakland, California. She says in a letter to the Messenger: "I am happy to send you a copy of the story of the Seaguls and the Crickets. I am sure this story will reach the hearts of many people and that they will have greater faith in the power of prayer. It is the only thing that will save our world from destruction, so the more who pray, the greater the power for good":

Here is a story of a miracle wrought by prayer. This miracle came in the shape of a white-winged bird. The story began in 1848. In the Salt Lake Valley the Mormons had started a colony. They were God-fearing industrious people and they worked hard. Five thousand acres had been plowed and seeded with wheat and vegetables. And then—a worker in the fields discovered a cricket.

Suddenly the skies overhead were black, as an avalanche of the writhing insects swarmed down relentlessly upon the wheat fields. The people tried to drown them with water, but the crickets crawled out unharmed. They tried to sandbag them—but there were still thousands upon thousands of the greedy insects gorging themselves on seed. There were shouts of "burn the fields" from the men—anguished protests from the women crying "our children will starve—we must save the wheat."

Just then a rider galloped up with another message that added to their despair. A wagon-train of several thousand more men and women were on their way and would arrive at the encampment before nightfall. There was only one thing left to do, and that was to pray.

Suddenly a voice called out "Look a cloud has come over the sun." "What is it?" They all scanned the skies—the cloud grew bigger. It seemed to be alive—and suddenly with an ear-splitting screech—hundreds of white birds swept down over the wheat field. At first the people feared this was a new plague. And then one man shouted joyfully: "Look, they're not after the wheat, they're after the crikets." And the women sobbed as they cried "God has answered our prayers."

In a few days not a single cricket was left on the wheat fields. The white birds were truly angels of mercy, and they must have flown over mountains and far, far inland from their natural habitat, for they were SEAGULLS.

And not many years ago a dedication ceremony took place in Salt Lake City. "We dedicate this monument to the Seagulls that saved us from the plague of crickets. This will show to every traveller the deep love we feel for these beautiful birds that answered our prayers for deliverance."

BERKELEY STAKE

End-of-Year Survey in Stake Finds Faith and Activity Mostly Commendable But Some Missionary Spirit Lacking

The end of the year 1954 finds Berkeley Stake holding an option on the purchase of a stake welfare farm, and also near the final adoption of architectual plans for a joint tabernacle with Oakland Stake on temple hill, stated President W. Glenn Harmon in a Messenger interview late in December.

The farm option will soon be presented to the stake for a vote of ratification while the two-stake heads will soon be journeying to Salt Lake for joint agreements on working plans for the tabernacle and its exact location on the site, aided by a scaled model contour map of the site now on view in the Church architect's office.

The stake population has reached 6253, a growth of 428 members for 1954, largely concentrated in the Contra Costa area from Pittsburg to Walnut Creek. 1955 will see larger growth in this and the El Sobrante - Richmond region, said President Harmon. Berkeley First Ward is reported practically static in population while El Cerrito has lost approximately 40 in total population since army apt. houses have been dismantled.

Chapel dedications will be completed, it is though, in 1955, on Claremont (in Febraury), Walnut Creek-Pleasant Hill (in June) and the Concord Ward chapel, in late fall.

Tithes and fast offerings have increased markedly in 1954 in the stake: the welfare budget was completed 100 per cent for the stake (only one ward failing to complete entirely).

All auxiliary organizations are in pretty good shape. The Mutual camping program of the Church was complied with for the first time in 1954 and greater things are looked for in 1955. An inter-stake recreation area will have to wait action pending discussions regarding purchase of a stake farm, President Harmon declared.

Missionary work within Berkeley stake is moving forward with renewed zeal in most wards of the stake and shows a total of 134 baptisms up to Nov. 30, 1954. Only the metropolitan wards, said the president, are lacking in a desirable missionary spirit at the present time. The stake has eight missionaries on full-time missions.

The Berkeley Stake presidency unites in wishing the membership of the stake a prosperous and happy New Year as individuals and as a stake family.

Martinez Ward

Christmas Parties, Drama Night Held

By Alva Mae Forsyth

The MIA put on a night of drama under the direction of Della Harrison. Several black-outs preceded the one-act play, "U.S. Revolt."

Beehive girls, MIA Maids and Scouts enjoyed an ice skating party in Berkeley. MIA Maids and their mothers had a Tuesday evening get-together with their leader, Sister Welch. Each girl contributed to the program and served refreshments.

A Christmas program was conducted by the Sunday school, Sunday, December 19. Members from all of the senior Sunday school classes participated.

Roy Richards Assists Navajo Indian Family Of Arizona Reserva'n

S. Roy Richards, a former Utah bishop, now with the Berkeley Ward bishopric as ward clerk, has become a one-man voluntary sponsor of an interesting Indian family in far-away Monument Valley, Indian reservation, Arizona.

He received a typical letter recently (Nov. 29, 1954) from the mother of this family (Bavile) of seven native Navajo sons. She writes a good hand (using a lead pencil), having attended a reservation school as a child. In this letter she naively betrays the life habits of her people and their appreciation of the boxes of clothing which Brother Richards sends to her from time to time as they are gathered by neighbors and friends. (He made friends of the family several years ago while visiting the reservation on the way from Salt Lake City to points in Arizona.)

A few phrases from this letter of Anita Bavile to Elder Richards are revealing:

"We received the six boxes of clothing . . . I have a lot of sisters and brothers that has family now that always come to see about clothing . . . they sure like it, and then they make the big pants and dresses into small pants and dresses for their children . . . and we got some neighbors and we give them some.

"I got a sewing machine so I can make things I want to make. And all the Navajo man they don't wear suits, like the white people do. Navajo likes to wear over alls and jeans all the time.

"I sure like to have a small dictionary because lots of times I don't even know what the words mean.

"Hary (her husband) can read and write and he takes the people into Monument Valley all day, and he talks to them, and they sure like him.

"So I sure need lot of clothing, for my people. And the Navajo women don't wear high heal (spelled "Hill") shoes, they are not use to it."

Walnut Creek News

See page seven for Verna Mayfield's report of Walnut Creek news of the past month.

Joseph Smith's birthday was honored by the Sunday school on December 12. Talks on the Prophet were given by Norma Williams and Milton Brown.

Val Lefler is home from the BYU to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Lefler.

Sister Loretta Davis, a new member of the ward will be a teacher in the junior Sunday school.

Sister Geneve James has been released as organist and is now our teacher-trainer. Sister Catherine Wolff is the new chorister, and Sisters Lorraine Lefler and Audrew Easton are the new organists.

Stake Blood Bank Report High Priests To Give Blood

Stake Blood Bank Report. Brother Elmo Carr, Chairman of the Stake Blood Bank Committee, reports that 5 pints of blood were donated during the month of November making a total of 16 pints on hand. However, from this total, three persons have received large amounts of blood, **28 pints** in all. Consequently as of this writing there is a deficit of 12 pints to be replaced. This is an **emergency** and any able bodied quorum member who can, should make an appointment and help bring our account back to a credit quantity.

The blood donation assignment for the month of January has been made to the High Priests Quorum.

Pleasant Hill Ward

Members Urged to Work For Self-Improvement

By Dora Friedrich

BISHOP'S MESSAGE — There are many important things ahead of us for the year 1955. We hope to see our chapel finished and dedicated. We want to see each segment of the ward attain better records than ever before.

But far more important than records or even the chapel is our individual spirituality. Are we living closer to God? Can we pray more effectively? Are we kinder? Do we serve our fellowmen more effectively? Have we found the inner peace promised by Christ to those who serve him? May this year see each of us advance in the "more important" things of life.

Joseph Roy Hilton, Bishop

* * *

Way up at the top of the list of people we are thankful for are Wally and Geneve Scott, who have donated not only hours but days and weeks of their time to make our fund raising toy-store such a huge success.

Thanks, Scotts, Pleasant Hill Ward appreciates what you have done.

* * *

Ira Somers, former member of the San Francisco Stake presidency, was welcomed to Pleasant Hill Ward by becoming our new Sunday School superintendent to replace Wendall Jackson, who was released with thanks to become a stake missionary.

* * *

We are happy to welcome several new members by baptism this month—husband and wife Margaret and Ray Haskell, and Nils Swanson, Milton Silver, Kaye Cochran and Diana Bingham.

* * *

Christmas, with its beautiful story of wonder was fittingly celebrated by all our organizations, with reverence and humility, and in other instances with merriment for young and old.

* * *

For the fun part, the Primary entertained at a gala Christmas party for the families, and even invited Santa Claus to the affair.

Our women's monthly study group and Relief Society combined talents for a program and party on December 22.

Both Sunday school and sacrament meetings were highlighted by the story of the birth of Christ being told in words and song.

* * *

Birthday greetings this month to Joey Hilton, Steven and Stanley Corbridge, and Jim Friedrich.

While we're dishing out wishes —may the Pleasant Hill Ward wish for all of you the very best New Year that you have ever had.

Kenneth Jensen New Director, Lafayette Chamber of Com.

Former Walnut Creek bishop, and now regional recreational director and high counselor in Berkeley Stake, Kenneth Jensen was elected to a directorship in the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce early in December, we are informed.

Already active in the Rotary club, Elder Jensen still finds time to manage his excellent dime and dollar store in Lafayette, and to raise a delightful family.

Berkeley Second

Ward Teachers Visit Two-Thirds of Ward

By Delso Walton

Bishop Green reports that two-thirds of the Ward Membership was visited by ward teachers this month.

The First Monday night of each month has been set aside as Ward Teacher Night when every ward teacher is supposed to call on the members on his list.

Billie Lucas, who was baptized recently, has been instrumental in bringing other of her family into the church.

Floral arrangements in front of the pulpit are always beautiful and are much appreciated by all of us. Among those who picked and arrange these flowers are Sisters Ivy Ericksen and Emma Jensen.

Sister Ethel Dietlicher, Leader of the Relief Society Visiting Teachers deserves a special word of praise and thanks for her continuing work in this capacity.

A Teacher Training course for all auxiliary organizations teachers started Dec. 12. Ferrll McComber is the instructor. This class will meet every Sunday at 10:15. If you have taught in any of the auxiliaries or if you would like to, here is your opportunity. The course will last six months..

GOINGS AND COMINGS

Berkeley Second: Bob Allison has been home on Christmas leave from Camp Gordon, Georgia. Crockett has also been home leave from the Army. Happy Holidays and welcome home to all the young people who have been away at school. Charles Summerhays is out of the Army. We all join his family in their happiness at his being home for awhile.

BIRTHS

Alameda: To Ernest C. and Lorine M. Conrad, a girl, Coleen Marie, born November 28 at Peralta Hospital. To Robert Ben and Beverly Jean Richards, a girl, Carry Jean, born November 26.

* * *

Pleasant Hill: It is a brand new baby girl for Bob and Joanne Chalmers. They welcomed their new little daughter on November 19. On November 11, James Lynstead Gates and wife, Frances, welcomed a new addition to the Gates household, a baby boy.

Rodeo Ward: It's a boy for the Donald De Tomasis' of Crockett. He has been named Dennis Carl. Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Wanlass, Rodeo, are the maternal grandparents.

Rodeo Ward

Relief Society Holds Big Bazaar - Dinner

By Una Ellsworth

The Relief Society held its annual bazaar and served a turkey dinner recently. It was a very successful event. Home for the holidays are Misses Dorothy Wanlass, and Doris Lott, Jon and Joy Fitt and Thirsteen Lane. Brother J. C. and Sister Wanlass, Lehi, Utah, are spending the winter months with their sons and families in the bay area.

Dean Ogden is the new superintendent for Mutual. Herbert Wells was released. Dayton Smith, son of Leonard and Elsie Smith, was home recently. He is with the air corps stationed in Witchita, Kansas. Jon and Jay Fitt and Dayton Smith were sustained in priesthood leadership meeting to be advanced to the office of elders. Kenneth Gay and Stephen Fitt were graduated from primary and ordained deacons at a recent ward priesthood meeting.

We are happy to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hess and their five children from San Francisco's Mission Ward. Brother Hess was a member of the bishopric in that city. The Relief Society served a buffet dinner in December for the Pinole Masonic lodge. The D. B. Lotts are home from a months vacation. They visited relatives and friends in Utah and Montana.

The Edwin Lane family spent Christmas with their family in El Sobrante. Eldwin Lane is a student at BYU in Provo, Utah, and recently returned from a two-year mission in Brazil. Firsteen Lane has served two years in the Army. One year was spent in the states, the other year in Korea and Japan.

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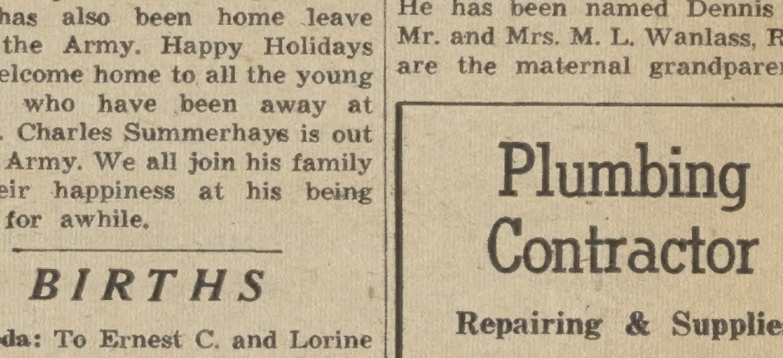

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BERKELEY STAKE NEWS

George Hickman Dies After Brief Illness

George Washington Hickman passed away at the Albany Hospital November 29 after a brief illness stemming from stomach ulcers. The funeral took place at the Berkeley Chapel December 2, with Bishop J. Ward Green in charge. The interment was at Sunset Cemetery.

He was born in Benjamin, Utah, January 21, 1895, the son of Josiah E. Hickman, for many years a teacher at the B.Y.C. in Logan, and one of Utah's first educators, and Ella Rogers. George's youth was spent for the greater part in his boyhood home in Logan. He received his elementary education there.

He served two years as a soldier in World War I, seeing service overseas and seving as a reported on the Army newspaper, **Stars & Stripes.**

Soon after the war he came to Berkeley and entered the School of Jurisprudenre of the University of California, graduating with the degree of J.D. in 1924. That his scholastic record was among the best is vouchsafed by the fact that Garrett McEnerney took him into his office in San Francisco upon graduation. While Mr. McEnerney had no partner he had a number of attorneys working for him and his was a leading office of the entire country.

Own Law Officer

After a period in McEnerney's office, George set up his own office in Oakland, becoming associated with Luther E. Eggertsen and Walter M. Gleason. In 1925 he became the city judge of Albany where he maintained his residence continuously from 1920 to the time of his death.

Upon leaving the Bench he gave all his time to private practice and business. He was active in the American Legion through the years.

George Hickman possessed an unusually good law head and represented important interests at the time of his death.

George contributed generously of his time and fine ability to the Church upon coming to Berkeley. He became the first Sunday School superintendent of Berkeley Branch, serving in this position until the original San Francisco Stake was organized in 1927, when he became a counsellor to the first Bishop, Francis R. Wilcox, of the Berkeley Ward, continuing as Counsellor to Bishop Dunyon.

Popular Among Youth

He lent much encouragement both by example and counselling, and was popular among our students at the University in a high degree. His work these early years of the branch and ward would be sufficient to entitle him to permanent remembrance.

In stature, George Hickman was a good sized man with prominent features, expressive eyes and large well shaped head. He had a natural dignity. Two of his most outstanding qualities were his generosity and alert inquiring mind. In giving of his means he also gave himself. As illustrative of this side of his nature may be mentioned when he was recovering from a severe automobile accident at the time Dimond Ward was building its chapel, of which ward he was not a member, and his appearing one day at the chapel among the volunteer workers and after visiting with them, left with the Bishop sufficient money to pay the wages of a good union mechanic for a day.

Weds Luella

At the time George was attending the law school there were quite a few full time missionaries working in the East Bay. One of them was Luella Anderson from Logan. Soon after her mission was completed they were married. Luella, like George, continued to give freely of her time to the Church, and at the time the Berkeley Branch was organized, became one of the leaders in the Mutual.

Three children were born to them through the years, George W. Jr., Joan (Mrs. Scott Bybee), and Richard A. All are graduates of the University of California. All are married and have children. George W., Jr. majored in agricultural studies, doing much of his work at Davis, and now lives in Bakersfield, and Richard A. is in the law, being at present associated with the State Compensation Insurance Fund. Joan and her husband resided in Livermore.

His passing came as a great shock to his many friends. It is good for a community, a group, and a family to have had such a man in its midst.

Christmas Party Held Berk-Claremont DUP

The annual Christmas party traditionally held jointly by the Claremont and Berkeley camps was again enjoyed, December 13 evening. This year Claremont was guest of the Berkeley camp in the Berkeley chapel's lounge whereas last year the two camps met jointly in the new Claremont chapel. Guests also were eight daughters from the Alameda County camp. Forty-one in all attended.

Besides music and refreshments a number of real life Christmas stories were presented from the published volumes of Heart Throbs of the West.

Authentic pioneer costumes were the order of the evening.

Beneficial Life New Millionaire Club Member from Berkely

William V. Emery, local Beneficial Life Insurance Company underwriter was inducted into the Company's Millionaire Club, November 17th, 1954 at a special dinner held for all members of the Charles J. Taylor agency. Membership in this exclusive club requires one million dollars of life insurance written and in force with the Company. Mr. Emery was inducted into the club by Norman F. Bingham, President of the Club. Achieving this recognition, Mr. Emery acknowledges the fine support of his policyowners and friends.

Mr. Emery joined the Beneficial Life Insurance Company in October 1945. He is also a member of the Quarter Million Club, and the David O. McKay Club.

Martinez Ward

Officers Commend Road Show Helpers

By Alva Mae Forsyth

The MIA Superintendency and Presidency would like to give thanks and special recognition to those who contributed to the success of the Road Show: to Della Harrison for direction and detail; to Betty Bullough for dance direction; Nana Lee Busby, making and supervision of costumes; Betty Evans and Glynda Carpenter, scene painting; Edward Graves, Morgan Strickland, Boyd Duke and Steve Ellis for special scene building; Don Evans and Gibb Harrison for transporting scenery; Lorraine Lefler, music; to Brandon Kent, narrator and to all the cast who gave such a good performance.

Genieve James has been released as Sunday School Chorister to become Teacher Trainer for the Ward Sunday School teachers and prospective teachers. Katherine Woloff who is being welcomed from Richmond is our new Sunday School chorister.

Martinez is again losing another fine family in the near future, the Ken Skidmores who have been active members of the Ward for the past 15 years.

By way of stimulating interest in the Genealogical work a number of Books of Rememberance belonging to members of the ward were on view in the Chapel Sunday, December 11. The background for this display was a small figure of Moroni which was fashioned by Werner Vom Dorp, director of genealogical work.

New members welcomed into the ward are Morgan Lee Strickland, Patricia Ruth Rosenthal, Fred Pierce Davis and Eila Brakefield Staudt. Brenda Lee Cline, daughter of Dean and Ruehl Barton Cline was blessed by William Furnell. Howard Francis Ray, Jr., Charles Lee Polson and Jack William Cousins, a recent convert, were baptized in November.

Advanced to the office of teacher were: James David Kent, Carl David Cook, Michael Ross Jennings and William E. Petersen, Jr. Thomas A. Neves and Richard A. Tyler have been ordained priests.

The correct address of our full time Missionary, Ronald Hughes is DUCKWATER, NEVADA.

Brother William Jaggers is at his home, recovering nicely from a serious illness.

Martinez ward MIA has had many recent changes. The new staff includes: M-Men teacher, William Peterson; Junior M-Men teach and assistant dance director, Milton Brown; Young Men's secretary, Morgan Strickland; Gleaner teacher, Darlene Peterson; second year Bee Hive, Lillian Fisher; Speech director, Leona Owens; Special Interest, Brandon Kent; Explorer advisor, Edward Graves.

Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Perrins have announced the engagement of their daughter Shirley to Rodger Tyler of Idaho. The wedding will take place in June.

Carla Polson, bride-elect of William Zenk was honored with a bridal shower at the home of Genieve James. Joy Bradeen and Shirley Perrins were hostesses at a shower for Carla given by another group of friends.

Out of town visitors included Afton Hipwell's father, Brother Hooper from Utah and Sister Niebuhr from Salt Lake City who is spending the winter with her daughter Hertha Vom Dorp and family.

Don and Net Wood Drive to San Antonio To Bring Calvin Home

Don C. Wood and Mrs. Annette Wood left Monday, December 26, for San Antonio, Texas to bring their son Calvin home from his two and one-half years in the Spanish-American Mission. Calvin has learned Spanish and has served for many months as the secretary of the mission, and helping to teach the new elders the language.

Before returning from San Antonio, the Woods plan to visit Mexico City. The president of that mission is a brother to the president of the Spanish-American Mission, so that the Woods will have a very favorable introduction to the Mexican mission head. They will return to Berkeley about the 15th of January. Don and Net will visit with son David in Los Angeles on their way to Texas. Don is in the USC dental college.

Covina Ward Chapel Ravaged By Fire

The Covina, California chapel was set ablaze December 17. The cause is supposed to have been an arsonist burgular. The edifice was completed one year ago. A telephoto of the fire in the daily press shows a volunteer starting to clean up the debris in the chapel at one end as the firemen are still fighting the fire at the other end of the building. The building cost $150,000 and was shared by the new Glendora Ward. Plans for rebuilding are already underway.

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BERKELEY STAKE

FOOD COMMITTEE REPORTS SAINTS LAYING IN EMERGENCY FOOD STUFF ACCORDING TO ADVISED CHURCH PLAN

More saints in Berkeley Stake are taking seriously the warning of the Church and are tucking away one or more kits of food sufficient for two persons for a year in 5-gallon cans and in other vermin-proof packaging. The kits consist of such items as whole wheat, split peas, lima and pink beans, rice and dry milk, reports the Berkeley Stake Food Conservation Committee.

Also reported is the sale to members of grain hand mills for grinding the wheat into racked wheat for cereal, or unto flour for cooking. The mill, it is said, can be attached to a motor, if desired. A price of $5 is quoted.

Honey from Utah in five pound cans, vegetable shortening in 3-lb. tins, and complete vitamin-mineral tablets, are part of the kit of necessary subsistance foods.

Cheese and prunes are also available as supplementary items. Other items as margarine, sugar, and spices are left to individual purchase because the wholesale prices do not provide sufficient savings to justify handling.

The food storage committee advises each family to make sure they have sufficient canned fruit on hand for a year, or better two years. Recommended are prunes, apricots, peaches and apples.

The committee is currently offering the families of the stake apple sauce dented cans at the special price of $2.75 per case, cheaper it is said than one could buy it as an individual.

Prices are subject to change without notice. At present the following prices are quoted for the kit designed to feed two people for a year on a subsistence diet:

This is for 2 adults for 1 year:

3 cans of wheat (105 lbs.)	$8.40
Rice (35 lbs.)	4.40
Beans, lima (60 lbs.) or	8.00
Beans, Calif. Pink	8.30
Split Peas (35 lbs.)	4.10
Powdered Milk (100 lbs.)	18.50
Honey (60 lbs.) in 5 lb. cans	10.00
Margarine 24 lbs. buy your own	
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Complete vitamins (1,000)	9.00
100 lbs. sugar get your own)	
Fruit (30 qts. apricots, peaches prunes, etc.	
Hand Mill	5.00
Salt (3 lbs.)	

LDS Scouter Awards Jewish Boy Scout At Local Synagogue

Probably for the first time in local scouting history has a Latter-day Saint Scouter been called upon to officially cooperate in conferring an award for religious activity upon a Jewish boy at a Jewish Temple Bethel, Berkeley, on Arch and Vine.

This distinction came December 17 when Robert Johnson, Asst. District Commissioner assisted in the presentation of the Ner Tamid (eternal light) award to Claude Ury of Troop 41, Berkeley. Claude is also an eagle scout. The Ner Tamid award, similar to the LDS Deseret award (or the new name, All-Church award), was given for two years of varied church activity at the synagogue or temple.

University of California Staffs New Presiding Claremont Elders Group

The 4th Quorum of Elders as reorganized in November 1954 has a new presidency which reflects the fact that Claremont Ward is strongly also a University Ward. All our University students or graduates of the University.

Brother Paul Hyer has been called to the presidency of the 4th Quorum. A native of Ogden, Utah, he enrolled at the Brigham Young University where he graduated in 1951 with a major in Asiatic History. He is presently attending the University of California where he has received his Masters Degree and is working toward the Doctorate. Paul speaks, reads, and writes Japanese and has filled a full time mission in the Central Pacific with headquarters in Hawaii.

As his first counselor, Paul has requested that Brother Harold Eldredge who served in that capacity under President Duerden, be retained. Harold comes from Myton, Utah. He attended Utah State Agricultural College and and graduated from the University of California in 1949 with a major in Political Science. After nearly three years in the armed forces in the European Theater where he servd as a radar technician, he returned to the States and to the University of California where he completed a year of graduate work. He is presently employed with the State Compensation Insurance Fund in the Planning and Research Dept.

For his Second Counselor Paul has selected Elder Ronald Wyatt, former secretary to the quorum. Ronald hails from Melbourne, Australia. After several visits to this country he moved to London, Ontario, Canada, where he attended the University of Western Ontario for a period and then moved to the University of British Colombia at Vancouver. During this time he met his future wife, Lona Olson, of Fairview, Utah, who was serving on a mission to Canada. Ronald is presently continuing his education at the University of California where he is majoring in Hospital Administration. He is employed part time with the American Trust Company.

As secretary to the quorum Paul has selected Bro. Spencer Bateman who comes from West Jordon, Utah. Spencer attended the University of Utah where he graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. Following graduation he moved to the Bay Area and is presently employed by the Division of San Francisco Bay Toll Crossing on the Richmond to San Rafael bridge.

The Perry G. Earls Celebrate 49th Wedding Anniversary

Perry G. and Mrs. Earl observed their forty-ninth wedding anniversary quietly December 20. Oddly enough also, Sister Earl turned right around and observed her own birthday on the very next day, the 21st of December.

The Earl's are rather long-lived on both sides, so that prospects of a golden wedding party next year and many succeding annual observances seem promising.

Berkeley First

Many Young People Home for Holidays

Standing in front of McHaffie's drug store on the corner of Shattuck and Vine one evening of the pre-Christmas week were Ken Jarman and ..... Odell. These two Berkeley teen-age members are home from Fort Ord for the holidays. Barney Gardner is likewise home from his Texas training center.

Joe Eyring is home from the "Y" but will not return. Instead he will leave for the New England Mission January 5. Likewise John B. Franz, home from the "Y" will leave for the East German Mission, January 19.

Others from the BYU home for the holidays are Kay Barta Franz, Art Hopkins, Joy Ashman, Carol Thulin, Dave Gardner, Cheryl and Tom Johnson, Glen and Delores Chase, Janet Hill, Glen Harmon.

Tom, Doug, and Bud Stone (now of Oakland 5th) are also home from Provo. Tom will soon leave for the Argentine Mission.

Charles Summerhays (home from 16 months in Korea) will now enroll at BYU. . . Dave Bramwell is home from the School of the Pacific at Stockton.

From the University of Utah are Louise Gardner, Barbara and Laurine Ellis.

Remember Lucile Southgate?

A round robin letter from Earl and Louise (Southgate) Olsen reminds their old friends that they are not forgotten. The Olsens are living in Falls Church, Virginia, 1180 Patrick Drive (a ward in Washington D. C. Stake); have Sheney Lee and Calvin.

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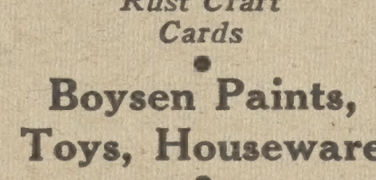
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A Man Who Lives Up to His Words; George Romney, Pres. of American Motors Also President of the Detroit Stake

The following informative article is taken from the B.Y.U. students' campus newspaper of October 14, 1954.

Last spring in a devotional assembly, one of the guest speakers as many before have done, told B.Y.U students of the importance of good, hard, persevering work. Tuesday, that same man became president of the fourth largest automotive company in the United States—reward for a program of work he diligently followed.

George Romney, 47, was named president, board chairman and general manager of American Motors Corp. which manufactures Nash and Hudson automobiles and Kelvinator appliances. He succeded to the position upon death of the former president last Friday. He was executive vice president of the company until his promotion.

Although press wire reports say he graduated from the University of Utah, and later did work at George Washington University, according to our recollection of what he said here, he never did complete college.

He served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in England. He never forgot the teachings of his home, nor the heritage that was his—he is a grandson of Parley P. Pratt.

Although he is burdened with civic and business obligations, he heeded the call of his leaders and on Nov. 2, 1952, became the first president of the newly-created Detroit Stake of the Church.

President Romney has been characterized by his father as a "man of determinations who could complete anything he undertook."

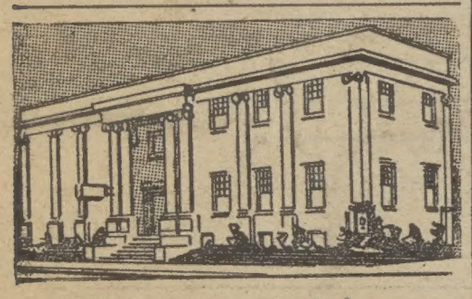
Reflections

Vinal G. Mauss

COME, COME YE SAINTS

"Peace that passeth understanding,
Perfect Joy that long endures,
Deep content, love everlasting,
Faith abiding, these be yours."

The peace of Christ does not come by seeking the superficial things of life; neither does it come except as it springs from the heart. It is a bequest conditioned upon obedience to the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is thus bequeathed to each individual. No man is at peace with himself nor with his God who is untrue to his better self, who trangresses the law of right either in dealing with himself by indulging in passion, in appetite, in yielding to temptations against his accusing conscience, or in dealing with his fellowmen. Peace comes by obedience to law. It is that message which Jesus would have us proclaim among men.



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The Church Historian To Make Transcripts Of Ferguson-Bales Debate

Thomas S. Ferguson who represented the Latter-day Saint position in a series of seven discussion November 8 to 14 with Dr. James D. Bales, reports that he has recently sent the tape recordings of these discussions, by special request, to the office of the Church Historian in Salt Lake City for the purpose of having typed transcrips taken off.

Whether the debates will later be printed and made available to the hundreds who signed requests for such a book is still problematical, it is said. However, the typing of the long recordings on many rolls of tape is recognized as a necessary first step towards any further printing of the speeches.

Claremont Ward

Att. Scott Barrett Begins Law Practice With Tom Ferguson

A new LDS legal office was announced December 21, 1954, when Scott Barrett joined forces with Att. Thomas Stuart Ferguson at 539-30th Street, Oakland, in the practice of law. On that date Scott received notice of having passed the California state bar examinations, and being entitled to enter on the practice of law in this state of California.

Attorney Ferguson has occupied these offices on 30th Street (over the medical offices of Dr. Emery R. Ranker and C. Ronald Smith) for more than a year. Mr. Barrett (Claremont Ward) has been busy in these offices since completing his law courses at Hastings Law School in San Francisco last spring, though he could not practice law himself until the results of the bar examinations were announced on the twenty-first of December.

Elder Barrett was among the less than 50 per cent of law school graduates taking the exams who successfully passed them, it is reported. Thus is consumated a rugged period of law study and work to support a young family. Many friends, recalling the unusual record Scott made as a Western States Mission elder, predict an equally successful career in law for Mr. Barrett.

SALE OF BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS REPORTED BRISK

H. B. Burgon, Ward Forman, and I. B. Ball, Berkeley Stake dealers in Latter-day Saint publications, reported late in December a good demand for Church publications as Christmas gifts. Among the best sellers were the new "quadruples" and the new large print "triples", these being the standard works of the Church bound together in leather in one volume.

Among the newer books in fair demand are the two separte volumes, "Matthew Cowley Speaks", and "Matthew Cowley, Man of Faith"; Le Grande Richard's "Israel, Do You Know", Joseph Fielding Smith's "Man, His Origin & Destiny", and "Doctrins of Salvation," and "Gospel Ideals" from Pres. McKay's sermons.

San Francisco's "Seventy's Book Agency" also has enjoyed a good Christmas trade in Church publications.

The Church News was also reported as being given as a Christmas gift in a number of cases. One member ordered 16 subscriptions sent to friends for this purpose.

DOES THIS DOCTOR HARP TOO MUCH ON NUTRITIONAL SINS?

The Berkeley Gazette carries a syndicated column, "Health Service" by Wm. Brady, M.D. Many of his teachings jibe well with the food part, the last half, of the LDS "Word of Wisdom", and the basic thesis of that question: **eat rich, live righteously, and you shall have health, endurance, and lengthened years. . . .**

This thesis is restated ofter by Dr. Brady in his blunt manner in his health colmn. We quote a typical example from the issue of December 24, 1954, under the heading: "Cause of Common Ailments":

Several persons have complained that I harp too much on nutritional deficency and ignore the actual causes of common ailments. They write remarkably similar letters; all accuse me of harping, and all come from a city where I've been out for years and then in again—I hope this is not the start of agitation to get me out again.

Of course, if I cared to be a nice man I could print a series of pieces about common ailments, describing them in terms calculated to make you wiseacres think you know at least as much as I do about them, and filling the blank space with piffle such as "it is believed to be," "fresh air, good food and plenty of rest to maintain good resistance" and many other stereotyped expressions that sound nice but don't mean anything.

Some people who complain about my harping on nutritional deficiency probably take at face value the familiar Yankee boast that we have the highest scale of living in the world.

So far as "scale of living" applies to food, I doubt that Americans generally have better food than some European peoples have, the Danes, Swedes and Norwegians, for instance.

Perhaps it won't weigh with the wiseacres, but there is a good reasons why I harp so much on nutritional deficiency. It is this: nutritional deficiency is the chief cause of our common ailments other than respiratory infections. In other words, moderate nutritional deficiencies, insufficient daily intake of essential vitamins, minerals and-or complete proteins through the years account for the functional weaknesses or disturbances which constitute common ailments.

For instance, familiar complaints of millions of Americans who are deprived of nothing but knowledge are actually the symtoms of moderate beriberi, and, as thousands of these semi-invalids have learned, the complaints clear up if they follow an improved diet or supplement their ordinary diet with an optimal daily ration of vitamin B complex for a year.

Again, although iodin is not ordinarily included with the minerals, it is astonishing how much difference lack of a tiny fraction of a grain of iodin in the day's intake makes in an individual's physical and mental health and efficiency.

A familiar complaint of adults who suffer from iodin deficiency is that they weel chilly in circumstances which normal individuals consider comfortable. And so, too often, these semi-invalids insist on keeping the room overheated and unventilated, regardless of the discomfort this gives others.

Then there are a good many women 30 to 35 who have a change of life—no, no, not what the fishwives call change of life, but a change of personality and temperament from their former cheerful disposition to a glum, moody state that family and friends can't understand.

I invite the chilly ones and the gloomy ones to send a stamped, self-addressed envelope and ask in writing, signed, for the pamplet "The Iodin Ration."

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Devere Baker Aims Another Ocean Try

Under the date of November 10, 1954, the Berkeley Gazette printed a dispatch from Petaluma as follows:

"Devere Baker, skipper of the ill-fated raft Lehi which was abandoned in the Pacific after attempts to float it to Hawaii failed, said today he intends to make another try next February.

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